FBIS
DAILY REPORT

29 SEPTEMBER 1980

Iraq-Iran Conflict

Negotiation, Mediation Possibilities--In a 29 September speech to the nation carried by Baghdad radio, President Saddam Husayn declared that Iraq is prepared to negotiate "directly" with Iran, through a "third party" or through "any international quarter we respect and trust." Husayn affirmed that his country has adopted "positive and responsible stands" toward all the peace initiatives put forward by "Islamic and friendly" states and regional organizations and will exert every effort to bring about their success. He went on to say, however, that Iraq has rejected "so-called mediation" attempts by some "Arab officials," taking the position that "no Arab can adopt the stand of mediator" when Arab sovereignty is at stake and Arab blood is being shed. The Iraqi president stated that in such a situation, if an Arab does not "support his brother in the battle," he should at least keep "silent."

Declaring that Iraq is imposing no "illegitimate terms" on Iran and harbors no "ambitions," Husayn reiterated the Iraqi conditions for negotiation first announced by Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz in a 25 September Paris press conference, reported by INA, and later restated by Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi in a press statement carried by Baghdad radio's Voice of the Masses. He said Iran must adhere to good-neighbor relations, abandon its "trends of racism," refrain from interfering in the internal affairs of other countries in the region and return "every inch" of Arab territory. He added that Iran must return the Greater and Lesser Tunb Islands and Abu Musa Island. Husayn warned that Iraq will continue to deal "deterrent and firm strikes" against Iran if it continues the fighting. He said that Iraq's aim is to reach a formula on which to base the relationship between Iraq and the Arab nation, on the one hand, and Iran, on the other, but that if Iran rejects his "sincere appeal for a cease-fire," the Iranian people should take the initiative to "rid" themselves of the ruling "clique." If they do this, Husayn promised, Iraq will help them overcome the "tragedies" that have befallen them since the Khomeyni regime came to power.

In a 27 September telephone conversation with President Ziaul Haq, reported by INA, Saddam Husayn "welcomed" the Pakistani leader's "visit to Iraq to use his good offices to solve the existing conflict between Iraq and Iran through peaceful means." According to Karachi radio, Haq said before departing for Tehran and Baghdad that his mission is only to "ascertain facts." Iranian media gave no indication that he and Islamic Conference Secretary General Habib Chatti tried or were able to do any more than this in their 27-28 September visit to Tehran. In a press conference after discussions with the two visitors, reported by Tehran radio, President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr said Iran will continue to fight "until the expulsion of the last aggressor."

Before Haq's arrival, Iranian leaders had categorically rejected mediation. Bani-Sadr, in an interview after his 27 September meeting with Ayatollah Khomeyni, reported by Tehran radio and PARS, stated that Iran "is not ready for any mediation or reconciliation because reconciliation between right and wrong is senseless." He welcomed the visit of President Haq only insofar as it represented a "mark of respect" for the Iranian Armed Forces and people in their resistance against the Iraqis. In an earlier statement carried by Tehran radio, Bani-Sadr said that there is "no need for mediation" and that those who come to Tehran with that in mind would be better advised to go to Baghdad and "force some sanity" on the Saddam Husayn government. Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i supported Bani-Sadr's stand on mediation, saying in interviews with Tehran radio that Iran is not prepared to "utter a word about negotiations" and should not accept "mediation, reconciliation, discussion or anything."

Military Situation--An Iraqi General Command communique, carried by Baghdad radio, announced that Iraqi forces captured Ahvaz on 27 September and said that by doing so the military "achieved the vital objectives designated by the leadership." The communique stated that it is now necessary to "consolidate this victory" and destroy the "remnants" of the Iranian Army. However, Tehran radio's Arabic service the next morning denied that Ahvaz has fallen, and Ahvaz radio was monitored into the evening of 18 September carrying local military news reports and asking citizens to avoid spreading rumors during these "sensitive times." Baghdad radio, commenting on the continued Ahvaz transmissions, declared them fake, claiming that Tehran radio was broadcasting programming in the name of Ahvaz radio. Baghdad said that this ploy was obvious because the transmissions that purported to be from Ahvaz radio carried only music and programming that could be relayed by Tehran radio through small transmitters outside of Ahvaz. However, since the alleged fall of Ahvaz, the city's radio has been monitored on its normal frequency carrying unique programming as well as relays from Tehran radio. Rejecting Baghdad's claim on the fall of Ahvaz, Tehran radio announced that the oil minister visited Ahvaz on 28 September, and it also carried a speech delivered in the city by Ayatollah Khamene'i that same day. AFP reported that several hundred Soviet citizens have been evacuated from Ahvaz.

A 28 September Iranian Joint Staff statement, carried by Tehran radio, once again denied that Khorramshahr has fallen to the Iraqis, who claim to have taken the city on 25 September. Abadan radio on 28 September carried announcements issued by the Khorramshahr City Council, the latest requesting food vendors to open their stores.

Iran has continued to warn neighboring states not to aid Iraq. According to Tehran radio, Iranian envoys have told Persian Gulf states that any military aid to Iraq will be considered an "act of war" against Iran. An Iranian Joint Staff statement, carried by Tehran radio, reiterated earlier warnings to "certain shaykhdoms in the southern part of the Persian Gulf" that so long as they give "sanctuary" to and help "mobilize" the Iraqi forces, Iran will consider it its "legitimate right" to "deal with these shaykhdoms in any way it considers appropriate." In a press conference in Amman, carried by Amman television, Tariq 'Aziz warned that if Iran expanded the conflict to "other countries," Iraq would adopt an "appropriate position." 'Aziz also stated that Iraq "categorically rejects any kind of foreign intervention" in the gulf. Saddam Husayn reiterated these latter comments in his 28 September address to the nation, saying: "We warn any foreigm power that tries to exploit the situation in order to interfere in the region's affairs that the countries of the region are capable of protecting the safety of the region, guaranteeing freedom of shipping in it and ensuring the legitimate rights of all the countries of the world." Monitored Iraqi and Iranian media have made no mention of President Carter's proposal to convene a meeting of Western industrial powers to discuss ways to ensure the flow of oil through the Persian Gulf.

Iraqi Oil Exports--According to AFP, Iraq has "suspended all crude oil exports" because of "extensive damage" to its oil installations. The news agency, citing the weekly MIDDLE EAST ECONOMIC SURVEY, said that Iraq has informed the oil companies of a "complete loss of production" and that deliveries will be stopped "until further notice." Statements issued by the Iranian Joint Staff on 27 and 28 September, carried by Tehran radio, reported continued bombing of the Kirkuk oil installations, claiming 85 percent destruction. The Turkish ANATOLIA news agency reported that the Kirkuk-Yumurtalik oil pipeline was sabotaged on the night of 26-27 September but that damage was "minimized" and the line would be reopened within 2 days. According to AFP, a Turkish Foreign Ministry spokesman denied that Iranian aircraft had bombed the pipeline.

The Damascus paper ATH-THAWRAH reported that on 25 September Syria "immediately and unconditionally" agreed to an Iraqi request to pump oil through Syrian pipelines to the Lebanese port of Tripoli. The paper also said that the flow of Iraqi oil to Baniyas has been stopped due to the Iranian shelling of Iraqi oil installations and that its resumption depends upon Iraq's efforts to repair the damaged oil works. The oil flow to both Baniyas and Tripoli is from Kirkuk.

Iranian Information Efforts--In an interview carried by Tehran radio, President Bani-Sadr said Iran's international position has been weakened because of its poor efforts in the sphere of "foreign propaganda" which have inhibited the "exportation of our revolution" and brought about a situation in which "you are subjected to aggression and nobody in the world bothers to ask why this country has been attacked." He said that if Iran had made greater efforts in this regard, it would not have been so easy for Iraq to attack. He noted that Saddam Husayn had allowed 300 reporters into Iraq while in Iran even telex services had been out until recently. He urged Iran to open its borders to "tell the world the realities" and not to fear the dissemination of lies, saying that most correspondents will report the truth.

In a related development, Tehran radio carried an announcement issued by Ayatollah Khomeyni appointing 'Abdollah Nuri as head of the Information and News Department of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Khomeyni said in the announcement that under the current "extraordinary conditions" Nuri will be charged with improving coordination of internal and external news and that all "information organs are dutybound" to give him the "necessary cooperation with maximum effort." Khomeyni also gave Nuri the power to expel from the country anybody acting contrary to the nation's interests and, on the other hand, to "attract individuals for cooperation."

In a similar announcement broadcast over Tehran radio, Ayatollah Khomeyni appointed 'Ali Akbar Mohtashami director of the Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Khomeyni noted the "emergency situation" facing the country and told Mohtashami to "dismiss anyone you see fit and recruit loyal individuals."

CORRECTION

In the MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW of 26 September, a passage was dropped from the second sentence, which begins on line seven of the first paragraph. The sentence should read: "'Aziz did not fully define what Iraq considers to be its territories, saying only that it demands Iranian respect for Iraq's 'full sovereignty' over the Shatt al-'Arab and territories acknowledged by international agreements as belonging to Iraq, which Iraq has been forced to 'liberate in the past few days.'"

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KHOMEYNI ADDRESSES IRANIAN, IRAQI PEOPLES AND ARMIES

JN270913 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0615 GMT 27 Sep 80

["Historic speech" by Imam Khomeyni addressed to the Iranian people and army and the Iraqi people--read by announcer; Tehran Domestic Service in Persian at 1030 GMT on 26 September carried a 23-minute recording of Khomeyni's speech--poor reception precludes full processing of this version]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. I would like to address our Iranian people and army and also the Iraqi people.

The valor of the army and the other armed forces, such as the revolution guards and others, has reminded us of the valor during the dawn of Islam. The Islamic military forces were not equal to the forces of the enemy during the dawn of Islam. In the war with the Romans, the enemy army consisted of about 800,000 soldiers, while the Islamic Army consisted of only 30,000 soldiers. The Roman commanders on the frontlines numbered 1,000; in other words, double the number of commanders in the Islamic army.

Khalid ibn al-Walid, the commander of the Islamic army, said: We must deal them a blow which will break their morale. Let 30 of our men strike at their 60,000-strong frontline forces. Some 60 men went to face the 60,000 fighters. They launched a surprise attack, wiping out the enemy's 60,000 soldiers.

Throughout the period in which we were resisting the forces of the defunct shah, our forces were nothing compared to the regular army and other forces at the disposal of the defunct regime. Furthermore, all the big powers in the world were on the side of that regime, while nobody stood by us. Now, our forces number 30 million; in other words, the entire Iranian people. This is also the case of hundreds of millions of other human beings, who once opposed us.

What counts in war is not numbers, but experience, morale and resilience--capabilities [as heard] which that handful of men in the dawn of Islam possessed and utilized in routing big armies.

Thank God, although we are few in number in our country and although our enemies are among the big powers, our people are facing up to the test. They can, through unity and faith in God Almighty, inflict defeat on the big and multitudinous armies.

Therefore, what must be available is the strength which individuals derive from (?faith). Thank God, this strength is currently available. It exists in the army, the revolution guards and the other regular forces. When facing death, each one of them derives strength from shouting God is great and charging on.

For instance, a large group of enemies in Kordestan attacked a base having a small group of soldiers. That small group was able to defeat the large enemy group. This was because the small group depended on God, while the large group did not.

Therefore, we must not say that our army is like other armies or that our gendarmerie forces are like other gendarmerie forces or that our revolution guards are like the other armed forces. This is not true, because the other armies are fighting for the sake of one person. In Iraq, the armed forces are fighting for the sake of Saddam Husayn. What sensible man will sacrifice himself for Saddan Husayn? What for? What would be the outcome?

Our army is fighting for a cause. Its men say: If we die, we will be with God. [Words indistinct] this is the spirit which achieved victory.

Thank God, our army and other regular forces enjoy this spirit. My message to the army is: I praise your efforts. You stood like men and fought like the soldiers in the dawn of Islam. My good tidings to them is that if they kill the enemies, they shall go to paradise, and if they are killed, they shall also go to paradise. These are my good tidings.

This is divine power. Our regular forces and the revolution guards are equipped with divine power. Your weapon shall be God is great [Allah akbar]. There is not a sharper weapon on earth.

This also applies to the people. This transformation in our people is a divine one. A miracle has happened, transforming our people, who were once weak, into powerful men. Our people had no arms, while their enemy was fully equipped. They faced tanks and machineguns with empty hands. But they leaped onto the tanks and seized them.

It is a divine strength which our people have possessed and are still possessing. Those who think that this time the situation will be different, are mistaken. All people will rise as one man in the face of adversities.

The sons of our people in Khorramshahr, Abadan, Ahvaz and other places are manning the fortifications and barricades they built themselves. The president of the republic was here with me a short while ago. He told me: We went there and saw how they built fortifications. They are ready.

The stories told by certain foreign sources are mere rumors. The enemy has not even approached the city of Khorramshahr; yet, they are claiming that they have occupied this city. They are spreading these rumors to please themselves. I heard another rumor today which the Iraqi regime disseminated to please itself. The rumor says that so-and-so has died. I tell them: So what, as long as God exists. Our people rely on God Almighty, and God has been with our people right from the beginning and will continue to be with them forever.

My message to the Iraqi Army is this: Why are you shedding your blood? What will they give you for that? Here, our soldiers say: When we sacrifice our blood, God shall offer us something better than this earth. As for you, why are you doing this?

O Iraqi Army, O Iraqi Armed Forces, return to Islam before it is too late. Repent while you have the chance, just as many of your brothers have repented and come here to be part of the Islamic army. You also come here and join this Islamic country and army. It is better for you now and in the life hereafter.

Do not follow a nonbeliever and an apostate. Follow those who uphold Islam. Follow God's prophet, not Saddam. Dissociate yourselves from these men because if you do, they would be worth nothing. Abandon them and, if you can, kill them. Aim your guns at them and kill them. If you cannot reach them, abandon them. Come to Iran. You are most welcome here. This Muslim country will protect you. We welcome you here and are ready to serve you.

As for the Iraqi people, I have always believed that the Iraqi tribes are always armed and that the Iraqis are brave people. I still believe this. But I do not know what has happened. The Iraqi people have not risen as they should have. I know that the hearts of the entire Iraqi people are bleeding from that government, which is why no one agrees with it.

Now that the Iraqi rulers are busy with the war against Iran, and before we pounce on them and kill them, the Iraqi people must rise as one man just as the Iranian people have risen.

The Iranian people have risen and crushed a force which was a hundred times more powerful than the force at the disposal of Saddam Husayan.

You also rise. Strike and demonstrate. Paralyze his economy. Do not pay taxes to the regime, because it is blasphemy. Do not pay water and electricity bills, because Saddam Husayn is a deviate. Do not heed his orders. Condemn him, because he cannot fight the entire nation.

Saddam Husayn's radio is repeatedly saying that the Iraqi people are such and such. Yet the Iraqi people know that if given the opportunity, this man would wipe out all traces of Islam in Iraq and destroy all mosques. Therefore, since they are busy with the war against Iran, move, stage demonstrations, blow up [words indistinct] places as the Iranians have done.

You must resist the group which is opposing Islam. You must defend Islam. Defending Islam is a duty like defending honor and dignity. This man is telling lies. He says he is an Arab, but he is a liar. He is an American, not an Arab. The Arab is a Muslim. He is not an Arab but an American. How can he claim to be a Muslim?

I must say this to the Iraqi people. The war now is between Islam and nonbelievers. It is the duty of all Muslims to defend Islam. The Iraqi rulers follow Michel 'Aflaq. What has Michel 'Aflaq got to do with Islam? He considers Islam contrary to the objectives of the Ba'th Party.

The Iraqi people must rise. Rise against Saddam. You will triumph, as we have triumphed by depending on God. Let us hold hands together in order to crush this man and his party. Let us do away with the evil of these men--'Aflaq and his designs and Saddam and As-Sadat and their designs. Let each of us establish an Islamic government in his own country. Let Iran have its own government and Iraq its own government, but united under the banner of Islam. We will crush all these men, God willing. Peace be upon you.

KHOMEYNI RECEIVES RAFSANJANI, GENDARMERIE REPRESENTATIVE

LD261246 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Sep 80

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam va Moslemin Hashemi Rafsanjani, speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, and Hojjat ol-Eslam Jajj Sheykh Mohziyeddin Ansari, the imam's representative in the gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran, were received separately this morning by Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran. According to PARS, the speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly and the imam's representative in the gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran submitted some reports to the imam of the people at this meeting.

BANI-SADR COMMENTS ON TALKS WITH KHOMEYNI, FIGHTING

LD261732 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1151 GMT 26 Sep 80

[Text] As we informed you in the last news bulletin, Dr Seyyed Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, the president, was this morning received by Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran. He submitted a report on his recent trip to the southern regions of the country and his inspection of the battlefields between Iran and Iraq. After his visit to the imam, which lasted about 30 minutes, the president replied to the questions of the correspondent of the Central News Bureau during a press conference about the outcome of his inspection tour of Khorramshahr and other areas in Khuzestan and the situation on the battlefields as well as the instructions of the imam.

[Begin recording] [Question] Following your 2-day visit to the battlefield in Khuzestan you were received by the imam. Please let us know what topics were discussed in this meeting.

[Answer] The first issue raised was that when one spends some time close to and at the side of the soldiers, one notices that the situation is different from what one hears. In other words, the situation there is very good. The Iraqis engage in false propaganda, claiming that they have occupied this or that place. All the places they said they had occupied I visited along with the soldiers. Of course, their artillery shells were coming in, but the Iranian soldiers regarded this as normal. General Fallahi was even shouting at them: Don't you see that a shell is coming, go back to your position. But the soldiers paid no heed to these shells. We joked with Mr (Qassabiyan) [words indistinct]. Well, the attitude of the soldiers was happy and sincere and they would not allow the Iraqis to advance an inch.

For instance, yesterday they told us that Khorramshahr was about to fall at any moment. I personally went to Khorramshahr and saw that this was not true. Of course, (?the people had not gone to work) because the propaganda had frightened them. But we saw no problems: all the streets are full of fortifications. What idiot will enter this town? They have grenades, everything. Thank God, all the cities are busy (?in action). Therefore, after 15 days the Iraqi Army--these days most of the fighting is done by (?armored divisions)--if during the first week the other side was not able to achieve anything it is clear that [words indistinct]. Now, our turn will come: today or tomorrow it will be our turn. [Words indistinct] These are the things which I told the Imam. I told him that we noticed high morale among the soldiers in these areas. All of them are in their own positions and are defending them. All these reports that the Iraqis have come to this or that place and that they have so many tanks: all of these have been proved to be false. [Words indistinct] We went there and found that there were not 40 tanks, but 18, and even those have been bogged down in mud. So this is the situation.

However, you cannot say that the people are completely carefree and happy and that there is nothing happening. No, there is a war going on. There is a war with all its consequences. For instance, they have smashed our refinery. In response, yesterday we smashed all their oil installations. Well, it is a war, and war has its own nature and its own dangers. There are all these things, but a nation which engaged in such a war wishes to maintain its independence.

[Question] As you also mentioned, false information has been spread throughout the world by Iraq concerning the (?revolt) in Khorramshahr [words indistinct]. However, we need strong information and news agencies to neutralize these reports which are being broadcast by Iraq.

[Answer] Definitely. For instance, Ahvaz radio has broadcast certain things which weaken the morale of the soldiers themselves. When you say that 200 tanks are moving towards Ahvaz, when a soldier who is fighting in (?his position) suddenly [words indistinct] and he loses his morale. It is due to strong faith that they have been kept there. You should not broadcast any report which has not been confirmed by the headquarters of the armed forces. You should announce to all your radio stations that as long as the army staff has not confirmed a report, you should not broadcast it. Of course, we do not need to engage in excessive propaganda. [Words indistinct] We should tell the truth whatever it is.

[Question] Many people repeatedly ask us for reports. [Words indistinct] If we wish to wait for the army telex as has been...

[Answer] If the people make many telephone calls to you, tell them to telephone the army headquarters and to ask the president himself. We shall satisfy the people that it is better if they hear fewer, but proper reports, rather than a lot but false reports.

If we tell them something and then the whole world, including ourselves, comes to believe it, that the Iraqis have invaded from that place and that place. [as heard] It is natural for a soldier who is fighting in his underground bunker and who sees artillery shells coming one after another--the place we visited in (Eyn-e Khash) the Iraqis claimed to have occupied it and to have gone 100 miles beyond it, there a shell came and hit a tank, only a few steps away from us--all these shells are coming. [as heard]

When the soldier turns on his radio and hears that certain things have happened, he says: We have lost the war. Therefore, great care is needed. Someone on the radio who really knows the facts says that a bomb which the Iraqis have dropped has missed the target by 20 meters--this means that the next time the Iraqis will hit the target. These are certain reports which the military experts understand, but we do not know. Therefore, we should ask the military experts how we should broadcast reports so that the enemy cannot make use of them. It is a war.

You do not wish to say that the artillery shell which the enemy has fired has hit a certain target. This means that they would fire the second one more carefully. All of these reports mean something.

[Question] What instructions did the imam give in your meeting?

[Answer] As ever, the imam was happy, composed and hopeful. He said that, God willing, you will be victorious.

[Question] It is now about 1100 on Friday. Please give us the latest reports that you have about the battlefields.

[Answer] On the basis of the information we have the situation is good on all fronts and [words indistinct] I will discuss what I have seen with my own eyes. Until 2400 last night the situation was good. This morning, I was told that the situation is good. Of course, the views differ. If all the Iraqi forces are those that [words indistinct], and most probably it is so, then one can say that the Iraqi forces have lost this war, because if the armored units do not succeed during the first week, then you are wasting your power. Our air force, which they imagined had been destroyed, acted in a very strong way and it made us proud. Our armed forces in this war, even before this war, gained strong Islamic morale. The morale of the armed forces has become much stronger. Those who either inside or outside the country imagine certain things, (have now had to give up their imaginings). One of the benefits of this war is that all those who thought that this army had been destroyed and could not achieve anything now realize that this is not so. It is very strong. This army has no thought of turning its back on us. Consequently, all the efforts which we made during the past year to strengthen the morale of the army have, God willing, produced results. I hope that all our armed forces who are fighting in the region will know that the heart of the imam is with them. This is what the imam told me and he will probably send a message addressed to the armed forces. Those who (2 nights ago were shouting in God's lands) "Greetings to Khomeyni," and "God is great," we hope that, God willing, in the (same way) they will topple Saddam Husayn's regime.

[Question] What reports do you have concerning the fighting in the fronts in the west of the country which you can give to the people of Iran?

[Answer] I did not go there, but I will go there. As far as I know the reports that we received there were better than the reports which we used to receive in Tehran. The reason is that a person who is at the front and at every moment sees the bullets being fired sees the danger. It is natural that his shouts are the calls of someone who is asking for help. However, the person who is in command (sees the general picture).

For instance, during the past few days if we had listened to all these complaints, (?we would have had to give up our superiority in the air). We did not pay any attention to these reports. Therefore, God willing, the situation is also good in the west. [end recording]

PRESIDENT CHAIRS NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING

LD261701 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1640 GMT 26 Sep 80

[Text] PARS reports that the National Security Council met this evening under President Bani-Sadr at the headquarters of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic. The report adds that the country's security, Iran-Iraq border conflicts, the manner in which the revolution's armed forces have countered the Iraqi Ba'thist Army as well as the latest border developments were discussed.

BANDI-SADR MEETS WITH PAKISTANI, ALGERIAN ENVOYS

LD261752 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1641 GMT 26 Sep 80

[Text] The Pakistani and Algerian ambassadors were separately received this evening by President Bani-Sadr at the headquarters of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran. PARS reports that during the meeting the ambassadors expressed their pleasure over the (?attempts) being made in connection with diplomatic measures by [word indistinct] to end the conflict between Iran and Iraq, and held talks with the president.

The report says: President Bani-Sadr, responding to remarks made by the Pakistani and Algerian ambassadors, said: We are being attacked, and so to end this aggression it is Iraq which will have to take steps; it is Iraq which will have to end its aggression. What Iraq is doing is serving America and harming the world of Islam; it is in the interest of Zionism and specifically detrimental to the interests of the PLO.

The president added: Consequently, if the objective of these measures [of mediation] is to understand Iran's stances and to recognize Iraq's aggression, then there is no argument. However, how can you mediate between good and evil?

The president then continued: Under the illusion that our country and our revolution have been weakened, Iraq and America intended to implement against us the same plan executed by the Zionists against the Arabs in 1967, but this very aggression and the coherent resistance offered against it by the armed forces and the Iranian people clearly show that we are quite powerful. The army and the people (?combined) demonstrate a coherent and unprecedented resistance.

Mr Bani-Sadr added: We have no designs on others' territories. However, those who have thus become an instrument in the hands of colonialist policies and Zionism will most certainly await the reaction of all Islamic states as well as that of their own nation.

BANI-SADR INTERVIEWED ON FIGHTING, MEDIATION, HOSTAGES

LD270848 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1748 GMT 26 Sep 80

[Interview by unidentified Central News Bureau correspondent with Abolhasan Bani-Sadr on 26 September--recorded; place not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Having dealt with this problem, let us now deal with the political aspect of this war. We have recently learned that Kurt Waldheim, Yasir 'Arafat and even the Iraqi foreign minister have proposed mediation and a cease-fire and truce.

On the other hand, last night Islamic foreign ministers met in New York and at the conclusion of this meeting they called on Ziaul Haq to go to Iran and Iraq in connection with the problems existing between Iran and Iraq and mediate between them. What do you have to say about this?

[Answer] During my visit to Khuzestan some (?ministers) raised the point. There was a telephone call from the Algerian president. The president of Pakistan also called last night and spoke; the Syrian president has expressed his readiness also. This very point was raised this morning with Imam Khomeyni. The point is that we did not attack Iraq; it was Iraq which attacked us. In the meantime, there was a report from Iraq to the effect that once they, the Iraqis, run out of strength, then they would ask for a ceasefire and mediation. Well, we did not start the war; they imposed this war on us. Now what is the meaning of mediation? It is as if two people get into a fight then there could be mediation, there is a party which has started this fight; what we did was to slap them.

Now they are asking for mediation. Whatever for? The situation is clear. The Saddam Husayn government has violated our borders and has crossed them. Now we shall implement whatever decisions we shall adopt. Saddam has not ceased his provocations in Khuzestan, Kordestan and consequently we replied. Day and night he is hatching plots. If these (?mediators) come over to familiarize themselves with our stands and to sympathize with us, then, as we say here, they are quite welcome. However, if they come here to mediate somehow or other then I should say: No, there is no need for mediation. It would be sufficient if they went there and forced some sanity on this mad government to make it stop this sort of behavior. If the Iraqi Government did so then we would not have anything to do there.

[Question] In your previous interview you referred to the fact that even if it comes to this mediation, we will not remain silent and will sue the Government of Iraq for damages.

[Answer] The issue is that if they stopped their conspiracies, dismantled their bases in Iraq, closed the borders, and left the internal counterrevolution alone, then we can say that you have inflicted this much damage to us and should compensate us. The dialogue will be meaningful, but not before, what can we say now.

[Question] Along with the issue of the war between Iran and Iraq, the issue of the U.S. hostages (?is being raised) because this issue cannot be separated from the extensive aggressions that the United States has always inflicted on Iran, and also because of the aggressive policy of the Soviet Union vis-a-vis the countries that are under Soviet domination. Therefore, considering Carter's recent comments to the effect that the war between Iran and Iraq could lead to the release of the 52 U.S. hostages, how do you view the connection between the hostages and this issue?

[Answer] I do not know whether Carter has made such a remark or not. In any case, the issue is clear to me; we received this information a month and a half ago and, as the people know, we have so far resisted well and and our army has fought successfully. The outcome is that our information was correct. We had discreetly prepared ourselves in advance; if we had not been discreet--they have agents--they would have created obstacles and prevented us from doing so. That is why we discreetly prepared ourselves. [Words indistinct] they will not stop in the future, either. It is clear. Take any system. If it were to lose its agents, it would start to disintegrate and die. The system of U.S. domination, if it were to lose Iran, which in fact plays the role of [words indistinct], its duration and strength would be diminished.

Therefore, the United States will not stop plotting. The issue of the hostages is not a question of reaching an understanding with America, or making this understanding a condition for the release --or lack of release--of the hostages. No, as far as America is concerned, we should work toward Independence; namely, to remove Iran from greater domination--Western domination.

In order to free our country from their dominations we should stop shouting slogans and screaming. We should find out what possibilities exist for us to use which would reduce U.S. domination over us. Then we should pursue these possibilities to rid ourselves from U.S. and Soviet domination. Therefore, with regard to the issue of the hostages, Mr Carter might be optimistic in thinking that this attack will result in the creation of a base for counterrevolution, that the counterrevolution will become established in this base and so on. Like the old man who had a jar full of oil and began daydreaming about it and while daydreaming he broke the jar with his stick, the same stick that Saddam used, and spilt all the oil, it is possible that they have such plans. But the issue on our part should be discussed in such a way as to enable us to estimate how much this element is effective in our serious and long drawn-out struggle against U.S. domination over Iran's real independence. The issue of the hostages should be studied in this light by us, and not in light of this attack. This attack might be repeated tomorrow and the day after tomorrow, too. These people are not going to leave us alone. If it were we who were the dominant one, if one of the parts under our domination were to break loose and leave the limits of our domination we would try to bring it back under our power. This U.S. domination disease, as long as it persists, will result in not letting us alone. This disease has no cure but confrontation, resistance and trying to export the real revolution of Iran. Unfortunately, although we have said and will say that this foreign propaganda is important, what you perform inside the country has a reflection outside the country, you should think about these issues. The fact that every day we read in the papers that with or without reasons 20, 30 or 40 people have been executed, or what have you, these affect the outside world, and will stop the real exportation of our revolution. We should show that in this country real Islamic justice existes, that law rules and security exists and work and effort are the basis of people's lives. This is the country which is based on ideology. Otherwise, if we have no economics, no security and have little judicial security and if people's rights are violated on the smallest pretext, this will have a worldwide reflection. It will come to this, that you are subjected to aggression and nobody in the world bothers to ask why this country has been attacked. This has brought reality in front of all our eyes. We should learn a lesson from these realities, and should not lose hope. Yes, there has been wrong propaganda, we ourselves have done wrong, this has left a reflection in world opinion. We can tell the world about these realities. We should not be frightened that a few reporters might report lies. Most will report the truth. We should open our borders and let the world see that our country is making desirable progress, and we should elaborate on our achievements and pay more attention to what is essential to our country. Hopefully, the world will change its impression of us, God willing, and the United States will not be able to do anything to us.

[Question] In this connection, some Iranian officials think that we should do the same as Iraq is doing now, namely sending groups to other countries for propaganda purposes or for help, so that they can see this weakness with regard to propaganda on an international scale. They even believe that if the issue is discussed in the United Nations one day, then we should take part and embark on publicity campaigns and discuss the issue. What is your view on this?

[Answer] I believed in this from the beginning and it is nothing new to me. I believe that we should export this revolution, and I firmly believe that if our revolution is not exported we would not be able to live here. This is one example here.

If our revolution had really been exported, they would not have been able to attack our borders so easily. If we are to export our revolution then we should tell the world what we are doing. That gentleman has 300 correspondents in his country, while your borders are still closed. You did not have telex even till yesterday; you should let them come and tell the world the realities. Of course, some will report contrary to the truth, a greater number will report the truth and at the end because we will repeat the truth, we can convince the world that we are right.

[Question] So, if the issue is raised in the United Nations will Iran be represented?

[Answer] In my view Iran's participation would be beneficial.

[Question] The issue of the Persian Gulf in the war between Iran and Iraq has attracted world attention. At present about 2.7 million barrels per day of oil exported by Iraq through this route have been stopped, and Iran has stopped its exports as well. This might damage the oil exports of other countries. Having in mind the fact that a large percentage of oil consumed by the world comes from the Persian Gulf, blocking the Strait of Hormuz might damage this issue. What is your view on this?

[Answer] What you should realize is that war is war. We did not start the war, others did. Why did they start the war? Well, they first claimed that there are two or three violations of the border line according to the Algerian treaty and we wanted to reclaim those areas. Then we saw that this gentleman [Saddam Husayn] shelled Khorramshahr and Abadan and then attacked our airports and then advanced his army to the west of our country. Now what does this gentleman say? He corrected those areas and reclaimed them, why did he then continue? If Iran agrees to give back the three islands and even withdraws its claim on Shatt al-'Arab, we still [word indistinct]. Three days after this there would be a new (?attack). This cannot be. These people do not want Islam to be established in this country. This regime is not to the liking of expansionists. This Mr Iraq on his own would not have dared to attack Iran even if he had an arsenal of atomic weaponry. So it stands to reason that there are powers behind him; thus he has attacked Iran with such confidence. He is assured that even if we deal heavy blows on him he will be supported and will not be toppled. The former shah had such support too.

Russia and the United States have sent us notes. The United States has sent us a note through the Swiss ambassador saying: We do not have any part in this action, in the action taken by Iraq. But how come, wherever their interests are at stake they immediately move the earth and create storms. But now they are standing by watching and in order to do something, they say we are against this action or we do not have anything to do with this action. With what kind of support has he embarked on this war then? Where is his arms factory; where are his arms that give him this courage, while his own people oppose him as do 36 million Iranians on this side of the border, and he declares war.

If any country comes to the assistance of Iraq we will attack them and will not hesitate. Well, it is a war situation now. If one is to die one should die with honor.

[Question] In an opinion poll a great majority of the Iranian people have stressed that this war should continue until Saddam's regime is toppled and he is eliminated himself. Are you and the Government of Iran of the same opinion?

[Answer] We have said before that this is our belief and the people have confirmed us. When we said this we expressed the people's opinion. The reason behind it is quite clear.

The government of Saddam Husayn has not allowed us during the past 6 months to start the country's reconstruction after damages done by the former regime. Every day there has been a new plot and every day he has killed some people.

Once we have taken this gentleman out of the way then one can say that the Middle East is just about ready to tackle the Palestine issue.

RAJA'I: IRAN WILL NOT ACCEPT GOODWILL MISSION

LD262118 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2037 GMT 26 Sep 80

[Text] Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i gave a telephone interview to a Voice of the Islamic Republic correspondent at 2330 tonight during which he commented on a report concerning mediation by Habib Chatti, the Tunisian foreign minister [as heard] and secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization, and Ziaul Haq, the president of Pakistan and current chairman of The Islamic Congress, between Iran and Iraq.

Commenting on the news which was unexpectedly carried by world news agencies, the Prime minister said: We will not accept any mission as a goodwill mission; we are never going to utter a word about negotiations. We now draw your attention to this interview.

[Begin recording] [Question] As has been reported by news agencies, a goodwill mission comprising Ziaul Haq, the president of Pakistan, and Habib Chatti, the Tunisian foreign minister, is to come to Iran to mediate between Iran and Iraq and end the conflict, as proposed by Islamic countries. This proposal has been swiftly accepted by the Iranian delegation. As the prime minister of the Islamic Republic, would you confirm this report?

[Answer] Well, we are not going to receive any mission as a goodwill mission. Obviously, should certain foreign figures wish to visit Iran in order to inspect the traces of the crimes committeed by the [word indistinct] Iraqi Ba'thist Government, we shall not object. However, we shall not accept any mission as a goodwill mission. We are prepared to express our views with regard to problems between Iran and Iraq, but we are not prepared to utter a word about negotiations.

[Question] Prime Minister, these same reports say [words indistinct].

[Answer] We repeat the same thing and do not care whether the Iraqi Government is going to accept this or not. On the issue of goodwill missions or negotiations we will not under any circumstances accept anyone. [end recording]

KHOMEYNI MEETS WITH BANI-SADR, RAJA'I, MILITARY LEADERS

LD271143 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1036 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Text] Dr Seyyed Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, the president, Mr Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, the prime minister, the imam's representatives to the Supreme Defense Council Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i,; Dr Mustafa Chamran; General Fallahi, acting chief of staff; General Zahir-Nezhad, commander of the ground forces; Colonel Fakuri, minister of defense and commander of the air force; Captain Afzali, commander of the navy; Mohsen Rza'i, commander of The Revolution Guards Corps; Colonel Foruzan, commander of gendarmerie, and Mr Mirsalim, supervisor of the state police of the Islamic Republic of Iran, were received before noon today by Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and held talks with the nation's imam.

Bani-Sadr Radio Interview

LD271326 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1119 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Interview with Iranian President Dr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr by unidentified Tehran radio correspondent after the president's 27 September meeting with Ayatollah Ruhollah Mosavi Khomeyni in Tehran--recorded]

[Text] [Question] What topics were discussed in your meeting with the nation's imam, and would you be kind enough to elaborate on the Iranian-Iraqi situation in view of the mediation which has been discussed?

[Answer] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Mediation is completely meaningless. We have said this from the beginning. From my point of view, the coming together of the heads of government, 5 days after the war has started, is a mark of respect to the resistance capacity of our armed forces and the unity and resistance of our people, preventing the Iraqi military and aggressive government from succeeding. We consider the issue at this stage [words indistinct].

Nevertheless, the situation on the fronts is the same as I described yesterday; that means our resistance is increasing and today I hope (?the program that we have) will be put into effect and weaken the enemy forces' situation enough, thus enabling our forces to gain readiness for an offensive.

[Question] There are reports that the Iraqi people have risen and are preparing against the Ba'th Government of Iraq. Would you be kind enough to elaborate for the people of Iran [words indistinct].

[Answer] [words indistinct] The propaganda policy is [words indistinct] and the people of Iraq to learn gradually that their government is lying. Yesterday the Algerian ambassador was saying that the way Saddam Husayn was pretending, he was going on a pleasure trip [words indistinct] (?and his armed forces after a few days resistance) would come and conquer everywhere and the issue would come to an end, [words indistinct] and the Islamic Republic regime would cease. Yet when they saw our resistance [words indistinct].

[Question] [Words indistinct] what topics will be discussed [words indistinct]?

[Answer] Concerning this issue, we have to make clear that Iraq alone could not have dared to attack our country. As we have learned, Iraq has been given the promise that in return for attacking Iran and in view of wishful thinking about bringing down the Islamic Republic regime, Iraq would replace the previous Iranian regime's position in policing the gulf [words indistinct] to inherit the empire and become the region's emperor, and the Americans could change this regime at will (?and bring in the regime they like).

The defeat of this design (?is the message) that we have become independent and are independent and will preserve our independence, and will prevent the enemy from implementing its numerous future designs. [Words indistinct] that essentially a dramatic change, we will put an end, God willing, to the possibility of the existence of these types of regimes in the Middle East forever. We have to greet this opportunity [words indistinct] and get rid of regimes allied to Britain.

Interview With Prime Minister

LD271444 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1125 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Interview with Iranian Prime Minister Muhammad 'Ali Raja'i by unidentified Tehran radio correspondent after Raja'i's participation in a 27 September meeting with Ayatollah Ruhollah Mosavi Khomeyni in Tehran--recorded]

[Text] [Question] [Words indistinct] you had a meeting with the imam and the armed forces commanders. Would you be kind enough to say what topics were discussed at this meeting and what directives the imam issued?

[Answer] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Concerning the topic of war, of course our friends have already elaborated on that. What I have to add concerns the issue of hajj. In view of issues being raised about air security for the flights and about routes that would have to be changed, and some other problems, we intended to cancel this year's program. But it has been decided that those who are physically and morally prepared to go on their hajj would God willing, be the best messengers for telling the realities of Iran and the Iraqi aggressions against Iran. Therefore, the imam has allowed such persons to make their pilgrimages on condition that their departure does not cause any problem for the armed forces and they themselves accept any possible risk.

[Question] Would they be going by air?

[Answer] Yes, by air.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] Yes, my belief is precisely that we should accept neither mediation, nor reconciliation, discussion or anything. Our dispute with Iraq, contrary to Saddam Husayn's claim, is not a border dispute, and it is not the agreement; our dispute with him is a dispute between Islam and blasphemy, and as long as Saddam remains in his blasphemy, it is essential for us to continue this jihad, unless Saddam repents. Islam has opened the road for repentance, and if he repented and returned to God and his people and discontinued his service to Eastern and Western imperialists, then he could prepare to listen to our views.

[Question] Mr Raja'i, concerning the people of Iraq: As you know there are some movements of opposition to Saddam's regime. What information do you as Iranian prime minister have concerning these movements?

[Answer] Yes, first of all, I have to say that these movements are natural, because we see this oppressing regime, during a period in which the people of Iraq, Iran and the world require construction, need to construct their countries on the principles of humanity, and, for example, in our country on the principles of Islam--we see this man who comes and drops his bombs on our people and diverts our attention from constructing an Islamic country and forces us to drop those bombs, which we had kept to drop on Israel and its agents instead on the economic resources of the people of Iraq, our brothers in a true sense.

The people of Iraq definitely could not tolerate this regime, and we believe, with the help of God, the way that Saddam started on his own initiative [words indistinct].

We hope that the people of Iraq will move fast. It is true, I have more information that the people of Iraq have risen against Saddam and even, as you know, that various cities in Iraq are under martial law, and this is the best evidence [words indistinct].

[Question] Would you confirm the report that the Iraqi people have got hold of arms?

[Answer] I don't have any precise news concerning this.

[Question] Mr Raja'i you have visited the western region, which is under Iraqi attack. You have seen that people's homes have been attacked. What help does the government intend to accord that region?

[Answer] Concerning the current war, we have created various headquarters and with the help of God we will try in the manner of Muslims to provide whatever we have at our disposal to those who have been subjected to raids and attacks and, God willing, with the help of the people themselves to provide all the government's possibilities.

For the time being, in the region where clashes are going on the possibility of reconstruction is nonexistent and we hope that at the first opportunity--after crushing this aggressor and, as the imam said, following his repentence and his return to his people and Islam--God willing, we will solve these issues, too.

General Fallahi's Interview

LD271434 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1130 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Interview by unidentified Tehran radio correspondent with Gen Valiollah Fallahi, acting Iranian chief of staff, following his participation in 27 September meeting with Ayatollah Khomeyni in Tehran--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Would you please elaborate on the topics discussed with Imam Khomeyni?

[Answer] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. First of all, the imam's satisfaction concerning the operation of the armed forces, the ground forces, the air force, the navy, the gendarmerie and the Revolution Guards Corps as well as the armed local people was pronounced, and I was given the mission of conveying the imam's satisfaction to all armed forces personnel. [Words indistinct] it was a short report concerning the operations and the stationing of our forces, what has been done and what ought to be done from now on, which will be put into force following the issuance of the imam's confirmation.

Concerning personnel, which was the most important topic of the discussions, receiving the imam's [word indistinct] regarding the public's active participation in defending its Islamic base. Of course, this does not mean that the public does not participate. No. It means that the public should be prepared and, of course it is. The public has to be mobilized in order to be able to quickly convert its nonmilitary activities into military activities at the time [word indistinct] that the country is facing the danger.

[Question] Concerning these mediations and the talks, would you say [words indistinct]?

[Answer] There were no discussions here; of course, the decision concerning this remains with the country's political leaders and the imam himself. I, as a responsibile military person, do not believe at all in discussions. We do not accept any discussions under any circumstances.

[Question] General, it seems that people fighting on the fronts have views similar to yours. Have you come across any other view among those on the battlefields?

[Answer] I, myself, have returned from the battlefields where I accompanied the president, and the typical opinion among military personnel on the battlefield was that they, too, are not prepared for discussions under any circumstances with the Iraqi aggressor army because they have faith that they will (?defeat) this army.

Interview With Navy Commander

LD271601 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1132 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Interview by unidentified Tehran radio correspondent with Commander of the Iranian Navy Captain Afzali following his participation in a 27 September meeting with Ayatollah Ruhollah Mosavi Khomeyni in Tehran--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Mr Afzali, would you be kind enough to elaborate on the navy's operations, given that you are commander of the navy, and it is the first time that we have talked to you?

[Answer] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In starting military operations in the Persian Gulf and especially in the northwestern part of the Persian Gulf, Iraq is pursuing two main aims. Its first aim is control and jurisdiction over Arvand Rud River, which began with the unilateral declaration abrogating the 1975 agreement and with clashes between the forces of the two countries around the river, which started 10 days ago and are still continuing.

At sea, the vast unilateral operations of bombing air and sea bases it started had the aim of neutralizing our navy and sinking our ships, gaining control over the Persian Gulf waters and occupying the Greater and Lesser Tunb-e Islands and Bu Musa and controlling shipping at the mouth of the Persian Gulf. Iraq has been faced with 100 percent defeat in all these aims. The Navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran has under its control the Strait of Hormuz and the entire northern shores of the Persian Gulf and 100 percent of the borderline of Iran's continental shelf.

Following the defeat inflicted on them the first day in Iranian waters, they have virtually fled [words indistinct] and concentrated in the [words indistinct] Persian Gulf [words indistinct].

[Question] We have received information that the Iraqi Navy has been virtually destroyed and that we should have no more concern.

[Answer] This is entirely true. The fact is that at the moment the Iraqi Navy is unable to (?launch any offensive) against our navy and for the same reason, following the first day of war, the Iraqi Navy was not able to show (?any resistance) at sea. Of course, [words indistinct].

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] Various nations' merchant ships are at the moment coming and going, and the directives that we have given [words indistinct] are to observe the route that passes through the southern Persian Gulf median line [words indistinct]. Of course, it should be said that oil tankers following the start of (?war) in our region have virtually halted their arrival into the Persian Gulf and a number of them, in order to avoid any possible damage, have docked at various ports and are waiting there.

Of course a number of countries have officially asked us [words indistinct], and we have told them that unless their cargoes are destined for Iraq or carrying cargoes from Iraq, we have no objections to their movements. [Words indistinct]

Defense Minister's Interview

LD271347 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1136 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Interview by unidentified Tehran radio correspondent with Col Javad Fakuri, Iran's minister of defense and commander of the air force, following his participation in a 27 September meeting with Ayatollah Ruhollah Mosavi Khomeyni in Tehran--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Colonel Fakuri, could you please tell us something about the latest operations carried out by the heroes of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran toward crushing the Iraqi Ba'th Government, and also those operations now being carried out?

[Answer] During the operations which have taken place so far, primarily inside Iraqi territory, we were able to hit vital, very vital, targets; in particular, we have been able almost to paralyze Iraq's oil sources and economy. And we will do this until Iraqi aggression is completely wiped out.

And within the country, with the support of the ground forces, we will continue the battle until the last aggressive Iraqi soldier is destroyed, wiped out, annihiliated or gives himself up or takes to his heels. The might and power wielded by the air force have been fully mobilized for the purpose of safeguarding the Islamic Revolution. Now Iraq, which is committing aggression against this revolution, must know that unless it refrains from this, I swear by Almighty God it will be utterly annihilated and destroyed, it will be wiped out from the face of history. Iraq should pay heed that it is confronting a country which is stronger than at any other time in its history, and it is confronting a people who are Muslims and are guarding the achievements of their revolution. Anybody else who might entertain the thought of such an aggression should know that he must massacre 36 million Iranians in order to succeed in putting a foot on Iranian soil, and so long as he cannot do this--and I am certain he will not be able to do so--he should certainly know that he will be destroyed. We will continue the war with the utmost ferocity until the total annihiliation of Iraq. Of course when I say the total annihilation of Iraq, I do not really mean the Iraqi nation. What I mean is the Iraqi Government, which is none other than a toy in the hands of the United States, Israel, As-Sadat and other aggressive forces. And we must utterly destroy this Saddam Husayn and the course of events representated by Saddam Husayn in accordance with which he is acting. From our standpoint this course must be utterly destroyed and wiped out in this region.

[Question] Colonel, could you tell us something about the losses inflicted on the Iraqi Army [words indistinct]?

[Answer] Yes. When the Iraqi Air Force launched its attack, it wished to repeat the events of Israel's 1967 war. Saddam Husayn nurtured that dream and thought of repeating those events. So they started their attacks. But he could not believe that in the ensuing days he would lose so many aircraft that he is now probably sitting down, crying his eyes out and slapping his face with anguish. I can state that the major part of the force with which Iraq has been able to attack Iran has either been put out of action or destroyed. I can say with certainty that we have shot down between 80 to 90 Iraqi fighter aircraft, (?definitely). The figure could even be higher, but since we do not have accurate figures of the aircraft we shot down within Iraq, and at the same time we do not wish to exaggerate, we confine ourselves to claiming these 80 to 90 aircraft.

PARS on Bani-Sadr Remarks

LD281024 Tehran PARS in English 0840 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Text] Tehran, 28 Sep (PARS NEWS AGENCY)--President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr met Imam Khomeyni, leader of the Islamic Revolution, at 10 a.m. yesterday in order to brief the imam on the latest internal and foreign developments, especially those in the western part of the country.

At the end of the meeting Bani-Sadr, as the commander-in-chief of the armed forces, told PARS that heads of a number of Islamic countries were going to come to Iran to hold talks with Iranian authorities, but we have announced that we were not ready for any mediation or reconciliation because reconciliation between right and wrong was senseless. We are the right and they are the wrong, because they have attacked us for no reason. Therefore those who support the right would be welcomed by us, the president said. He asked [as received] that the fact that heads of (?these) Islamic countries were willing to come to Iran showed, in his opinion, their respect towards the resistance of the Husayn. Bani-Sadr quoted Radio Monte Carlo's broadcast on Friday evening, calling Saddam Husayn the big liar of the century, since Bani-Sadr's visit to battle front revealed Saddam's lies and showed that his claims were all false. "However," Bani-Sadr said, "every one of the heads of these countries, including Mr Ziaul Haq as the representative of the Islamic countries together with the secretary general of the Islamic Conference, who come to Iran would be regarded by us a sign of respect for the resistance of our sons in the battle fields.

If they understand what we say and what (?to) us is the truth, we would accept and talk with them. But as far as mediation is concerned, I should say that our case is quite clear and we do not need a mediator. They have made aggression by the use of force and we have punched them in the mouth. We would inevitably continue the war until, God willing, the right prevails." Asked what Iran would do to support the militant Iraqi people against Saddam Husayn, President Bani-Sadr said that the best way was to disclose Saddam Husayn's lies to the Iraqi people.

He then referred to his meeting with the Algiers ambassador in Tehran and said that he had told the president that "Saddam Husayn was pretending that he had gone for a stroll, for instance in Champs Elysee, and that his armed forces would come and take over everywhere facing no resistance. Therefore, the whole story would be finished if the Islamic Republic of Iran would come to an end. But they witnessed this amazing resistance and, as you, visited the frontline and it was proven that they have occupied nowhere and he is disgraced."

In reply to a question as to what subjects would be discussed with the heads of the Islamic countries concerning the Iraqi-Iranian war, the president said: "We would make it clear that Iraq could not dare to attack our country alone. What has been revealed to us is that in return for his attack on Iran to overthrow the Islamic regime, he has been promised that he will replace the former regime in the Persian Gulf and, as the imam has said, become the emperor of the region. Therefore, the United States could change this system and bring to power the system that it wishes. To defeat this plan is not to only to preserve our independence but to bring about overall changes in the Middle East to the extent that these regimes would lose the possibility of survival forever. We should take advantage of this opportunity and thus accept its hardships...."

'ARAFAT, ZIAUL HAQ, CHATTI ARRIVE, HOLD TALKS

'Arafat Arrival

NC270654 Paris AFP in English 0632 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Escerpts] Tehran, 27 Sep (AFP)--Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasir 'Arafat arrived here today to meet President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr in an attempt to mediate in the Iranian-Iraqi conflict, a PLO official said.

Mr 'Arafat reportedly travelled here from Baghdad by way of Baku in the Soviet Union. He arrived in the Iranian city of Rasht late yesterday.

He was accompanied by Hani al-Hasan, member of the Central Committee of the Fatah wing of the PLO, and Muhammad Abu Mayzar, also known as Abu Hatim, who is responsible for Fatah's foreign relations.

As well as the president, Mr 'Arafat was due to meet several other Iranian leaders, the PLO official added.

The PLO delegation had earlier had talks in Baghdad to try to end the six-day-old conflict.

The PLO officials, who visited Baghdad on Thursday, were to be met in Rasht by representatives of Iranian President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr.

The delegation is expected shortly in Tehran.

'Arafat, Bani-Sadr, Raja'i Meeting

LD271222 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Text] PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat, Hani al-Hasan, PLO Central Committee member, and Muhammad Abu Mayzar, PLO foreign relations officer met with Dr Seyyed Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, the president and commander in chief of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran at about noon today.

According to our coorespondent's report, during this meeting, at which Mr Mohommad 'Ali Raja'i was present, topics concerning Iraq and Iran and Iraqi aggression on our country's land were reviewed and discussed.

Ziaul Haq's Arrival

LD271718 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1653 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Text] According to a Voice and Vision of Iran correspondent, President Ziaul Haq, chairman of the Islamic Conference Organization, arrived at Mehrabad Airport at 1700 and was welcomed by Dr Bani-Sadr, the president and commander in chief, and by General Fallahi, the acting joint chief of staff. Our correspondent asked Gen Ziaul Haq at the airport whether, in view of the fact that the Iranian Government is strongly rejecting the proposal for any negotiations on the Iranian-Iraqi dispute, he could tell us about the reason for his visit to Iran.

Ziaul Haq said: I am a Muslim; I am the head of an Islamic country; I am your neighbor, Iran's neighbor. My interest in Iran rules that I should learn what views are held by Iran. I have not come to Iran for talks, nor have I come here for any other issue. I have come to Iran as a brother and a friend of Iran.

In reply to our correspondent's question about his plan following his visit to Iran, Gen Ziaul Haq said: For the moment I am in the land of my brothers.

'Arafat, Rafsanjani Meeting

LD281154 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Text] Last night, Brother Yasir 'Arafat, head of the Executive Committee of the PLO and commander in chief of the armed forces of the Palestine revolution, met Hojjat ol-Eslam va Moslemin Hashemi Rafsanjani, speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly.

In his meeting, which lasted 2 hours, the conditions in the region in general, the conditions on the Iranian-Iraqi border and conditions in the south of Lebanon were discussed.

Also in this meeting, the extensive military invasion by the Zionists against the Palestinian revolution and against the two nations of Palestine and Lebanon was discussed.

Brother Hani al-Hasan, representative of the Central Committee of the Al-Fatah movement, and Brother Abu Mayzar, responsible for the foreign relations of the Al-Fatah movement, also attended the meeting.

'Arafat, Ahmad Khomeyni Meeting

LD281302 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Text] This morning, Yasir 'Arafat, head of the PLO Executive Committee, met with Hojjat ol-Eslam Hajj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni.

In this meeting, the crisis between Iran and Iraq and issues relating to the Islamic Revolution of Iran and the Palestinian revolution were discussed.

Ahmad Khomeyni on Talks With 'Arafat

LD290844 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 29 Sep 80

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam Hajj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni, yesterday, after having met and conferred with Yasir 'Arafat, the chairman of the Executive Committee of the PLO, in an interview with a PARS correspondent talked about the issue of the Iran-Iraq war and the issue of occupied Palestine.

Hajj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni in this interview said: The main issue we are facing now is the issue of war. We are determined to continue this war and we are sure that we will be victorious. Of course, we are not fighting with Iraq; in fact we are fighting with America, but we are sure that with reliance on God, the people of Iran will be victorious because we have a determined nation. Thousands of men and women of this nation have sent letters to the imam's office and have expressed their readiness to confront the enemy's tanks emptyhanded. What matters to us is saying 'no' to the superpowers, saying 'no' to force and oppression. We are certain that even if they can besiege us inside a village, from this place an independent Islam will be exported to the whole world. Hojjat ol-Eslam Hajj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni added: When the defunct shah was in power and 18 powers in the world supported him, the imam, with his pen, and this nation, with its uprising, destroyed the shah and the rotten system of monarchy.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Hajj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni said: Our position against Israel and the issue of occupied Palestine comes first. Twenty years ago, when there was not much mention of Israel's danger and even the heads of the Islamic countries were almost all quiet, the imam talked about this danger. Secondly, Iran after the victory of the revolution cut all its relations with Israel, cut the oil, and recognized the PLO as the sole representative of the nation of Palestine and changed the equations throughout the world in the interest of the nation of Palestine. What country has changed its position like this after its victory? Thirdly, the issue of Palestine is a holy issue in Iran and Palestine is as important to Iranians as Iran is.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Hajj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni at the end added: I told Brother Yasir 'Arafat: What I expect of you is that you clearly define your stance in regard to the issue of Iran-Iraq and without any political confrontation, because our people are [word indistinct] and we acted in the same way in our relationship with you. In no way is it in your interest to talk about negotiation and other things and I am sure you will not. I hope you are successful. To sum up in a word, be certain that we will not make the slightest change in our direction because what is important to us is the essence of Islam.

Ziaul Haq, 'Arafat, Bani-Sadr Meeting

LD281142 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Text] At noon today, General Ziaul Haq, president of Pakistan, met with Dr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, president and commander in chief of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

According to a correspondent of the president's office, during this meeting, in which Yasir 'Arafat, leader of the PLO also participated, Iraq's border aggression against Iran was discussed.

According to this report, during the meeting--which is still in progress--Ziaul Haq was informed of Iran's views on Iraq's aggression.

Bani-Sadr, Chatti on Consultations

LD281734 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1640 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Text] According to PARS, at noon today Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, General Ziaul Haq, president of Pakistan and chairman of the Islamic Conference, and Habib Chatti, secretary general of the Islamic Conference, met with Dr Seyyed Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, president and commander in chief of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in the headquarters of the Joint Staff of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

According to the report of the PARS correspondent, at this meeting, which lasted about 2 hours, the issues and problems associated with the attacks by the Ba'thist Government of Iraq against Iran were discussed. According to the same report, in this meeting the secretary general and the chairman of the Islamic Conference said that the present war between Iran and Iraq will damage the capabilities of the two countries and of the Islamic world. They added: We as the representatives of the Islamic Conference wish to find ways for this war to come to an end as soon as possible.

In reply, the president of our country said: The (?best way) to put an end to the war and to stop the forces which should be used against the common enemy is for the Islamic world to make the aggressor realize that it is not indifferent in the battle between truth and falsehood, but that it supports and sides with the truth. On behalf of all the Islamic countries the aggressive Government of Iraq should be reminded that attacking Iran is an attack on Islam and the Islamic community. Certainly, if all the governments--like the Islamic community which has realized that Iran is right in this battle and is supporting it--defend the righteousness of Iran's struggle then the aggressors will not dare continue their aggression.

The president of our country added: Our position is that until the expulsion of the last aggressor from our boundaries we will continue to fight with all our might and we will not allow our borders to be violated, and that imperialism and its puppets, especially the Ba'thist regime, are interfering in our affairs. For the past 20 months our nation has suffered all kinds of aggressions and interference by Iraq's puppet regime, and once and for all these aggressions and incitements should be stopped and their roots destroyed.

After this 2-hour meeting, the Iranian and Pakistani presidents and Habib Chatti expressed their views on their discussions to reporters. Dr Seyyed Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, president and commander in chief of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, said: The discussions were very useful. I hope our viewpoints were also clear. All we want is for them to take the side of truth, and that the right side will triumph.

Then, in answer to the question whether this kind of discussion will continue in the future, the president said: Discussions and meetings could be useful for demanding our rights, and they will certainly be useful.

Habib Chatti, secretary general of the Islamic Conference, who has been entrusted by the conference of the foreign ministers of Islamic countries with holding discussions with Iranian and Iraqi Ba'thist officials, was asked by the PARS correspondent: Regarding the Iraqi Ba'thist aggression against Iran and the clashes which have been imposed by that country on Iran, bearing in mind that this war is a fight between truth and falsehood, is there any room left for mediation? Chatti replied: I have not come to Iran to mediate. My goal is to submit the verbal message of the ministers of foreign affairs of the Islamic countries and the Muslim people of the world to Mr Bani-Sadr, the president.

KHOMEYNI REPLIES TO SOLIDARITY MESSAGES

LD271824 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Text] Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in reply to telegrams sent by eminent ulema, prominent Islamic figures, eminent Sunni sheykhs and representatives of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, has issued the following message: [announcer read]

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Your Excellencies the eminent ulema, prominent Islamic figures, eminent Sunni shaykhs and esteemed deputies of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, the telegrams sent by the honorable gentlemen were received. The unreserved readiness and unsparing support expressed by all the strata, particularly the eminent ulema, may God increase his blessings upon them, constitute a great support for the soldiers and the dear mojahedin who have made things very difficult for the enemies of Islam in trenches.

With their astonishing bravery they recall the history of the soldiers of the early Islam, who were ready to sacrifice their lives. They promise total victory in all the war fronts against the enemies and the superpowers of the East and West. This solidarity and unity being currently demonstrated between the brave nation, the army and the courageous forces of the Islamic Revolution guards is unprecedented in the history of Iran and the world.

Your Excellencies, wherever you are, prepare the people for war and conflict with America and its blood-sucking agents like Iraq; war is war and the dignity and honor of our homeland and our religion are subject to these struggles. Our country, which is more dear to us than our lives, is today waiting to prepare all its children for the combat against evil.

We shall fight for our beloved country until the martyrdom of every single fighter of Iran and until our victory is certain. Today it is necessary for the entire nation to defend their cities and assist the war-stricken cities. Today it is necessary for the entire nation to cooperate closely with the soldiers and the guards of Islam and Iran. Today is the day that our dear and zealous tribes must defend the borders of their country. Today is the day that our nation must hold hands with the corps and the brave and contented army to make our enemy realize that if they capture a city--an impossible hypothesis--they will face armed and militant people who will continue defending every inch of their cities.

Today is the day that our clergy is every city must instill the spirit of bravery, heroism and martyrdom in our people. Thank God this has already been done. Today is the day of solidarity and union; and this is also one of the great blessings and the will of God: to see that, contrary to the imagination and desire of the warmongers and those who create strife, all the conspiracies and conflicts have led to more union and solidarity among our vigilant and alert nation against the superpowers. And, God Almighty willing, faced with this solidarity, the thought of violation and suppression of our great Islamic Revolution will be removed from the minds of these narrowminded and obstinate enemies forever.

Grateful as I am, I apologise to all the honorable gentlemen for not being able to reply to each telegram individually due to the large number of other telegrams and the shortage of time. I beseech Almighty God to grant success to all of you. May God's peace, mercy and blessings be upon you all.

[Signed] Ruhollah Mosavi Khomeyni, 27 September 1980

KHOMEYNI APPOINTS NEW CHIEF OF NEWS, INFORMATION

LD281300 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Text] We have just received the following report:

By order of Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Hojjat ol-Eslam Sheykh 'Abdollah Nuri has been appointed head of the information and news department of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The text of the decree by Imam Khomeyni's office is as follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. His Excellency Hajj Sheykh 'Abdollah Nuri: Under the present extraordinary circumstances, in order to improve coordination of the country's battle news and coordination with the Joint Staff of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and, in general, to prepare the dear brave people, by order of leader of the Islamic Revolution of Iran, His Excellency Imam Khomeyni, you have been appointed head of the information and news department.

From this date, you will be responsible for improving coordination of the internal and external news, and all propaganda organs are dutybound to give you the necessary cooperation with maximum effort.

His Excellency Imam Khomeyni has given you authority--until further notice--to expel any person whom you may consider contrary to the interests of the country or attract individuals for cooperation, within your official capacity.

[Signed] Imam Khomeyni's office

KHOMEYNI APPOINTS NEW DIRECTOR OF RADIO ORGANIZATION

LD290908 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0730 GMT 29 Sep 80

[Text] PARS reports that on Imam Khomeyni's order Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed 'Ali Akbar Mohtashami has been appointed director of the Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran. In this connection the following announcement was issued by the office of Imam Khomeyni:

In the name of God. Your Eminence Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed 'Ali Akbar Mohtashami: Considering the emergency situation in the country and in order to coordinate better the situation in the radio organization, commensurate with the existing conditions, Imam Khomeyni, leader of the Islamic Revolution of Iran, has appointed you director of the Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The great imam has entrusted you with full authority to deal with self-motivated individuals and the individuals who are totally unaware of current issues. Until further notice, and within the context of your authority, dismiss anyone you see fit and recruit loyal individuals. The radio personnel are required to provide sincere cooperation.

[Signed] The office of Imam Khomeyni, 29 September 1980

BANI-SADR ANNOUNCES ALGERIAN OFFER OF ASSISTANCE

LD281030 Tehran PARS in English 0823 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Text] Tehran, 28 Sep (PARS NEWS AGENCY)--President Chadli Bendjedid of Algeria, in a telephone contract with President Bani-Sadr, commander in chief of the Islamic Republic of Iran, at 1350 yesterday, announced that Algeria was ready for every kind of help in order to help the resolution of the present crisis. Speaking about this contact Bani-Sadr told PARS that the Algerian president had said that the Iraqi attack against Iran had been 'a plot against Iran' and that they knew this and therefore would use maximum effort to help Iran.

BANI-SADR'S TOUR OF KHUZESTAN, BORDER DETAILED

LD281008 Tehran PARS in English 0903 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Text] Tehran, 28 Sep (PARS NEWS AGENCY)--Dr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, (?president and commander in chief of) the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, completed a 2-day visit to the Province of Khuzestan and the border areas.

He personally visited locations where major clashes between Iranian and Iraqi forces [are] taking place.

Arriving in Ahvaz, the capital of Khuzestan, on Thursday afternoon along with the commanders of the armed forces, the president and his party immediately held a meeting in the headquarters of the Ahvaz (?9th) Armoured Tank Division. After meeting with all the divisions the president left by helicopter for the port of Khorramshahr where Iraqi forces have been crushed repeagedly in their futile attacks.

Dr Bani-Sadr, in the darkness of the night, visited the battlefields as close as 6 kms to the border. He talked with individual soldiers, revolutionary guards and army officers of the Islamic Republic of Iran who, with unbelievable courage and sacrifice, have been defending their Islamic ideology and homeland till their last bullet and with the last drop of their blood. Answering one reporter about the morale of the Iranian troops at the battlefront, Dr Bani-Sadr replied: "Their courage and braveness are extraordinary. We were with them [when] the enemy rockets and heavy guns were being fired at them, and their firmness is astonishing. A soldier asked me to convey his message to Imam Khomeyni that he and others have left their families and are more than willing to destroy the enemy and themselves if necessary if the enemy dares to enter Iran. Another soldier suggested we should not stop our forces until the bloody enemy of Islam, Saddam Husayn, is delivered to hell for once and for all." In his visit to the port of Khorramshahr, where the Iraqis claim they are in control, the president and his party saw for themselves that enemy soldiers had not been able to cross the river. "Every able-bodied person in that city and the Armed Forces of Iran are determined to dig the graves of the invading forces," (?said) Mr Bani-Sadr.

The president returned to Ahvaz en route to Tehran, where he got a chance to talk to one of the Iraqi officers who defected. The man told the president that he and (?13) others were sent on a special mission of sabotage to Iran and took the opportunity to defect. Dr Bani-Sadr, upon returning from the south went to see Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran. In this visit, which lasted about 30 minutes, Dr Bani-Sadr gave a complete report of his fact-finding trip.

In talking to a PARS NEWS AGENCY reporter, Mr President said that there is great difference between what you hear and what is actually taking place on the front. Because of the mercy of God, the enemy has not succeeded in reaching its objectives. According to our analysis, they are almost finished militarily and economically, unless prompt and major assistance is rushed to them. From now on it will be our turn to punish them effectively. We never intended to attack [word indistinct] country and our economic installations. The difference between their aggression and our reply is that they are only successful about 10 percent of the time, while we are effective in more than 85 percent of our attempts.

BANI-SADR VISITS NOWZHEH AIRBASE 28 SEP

LD282100 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Text] This afternoon Dr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, president and commander in chief of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, inspected the various parts of the Nowzheh airbase in Hamadan. According to the reporter dispatched by PARS, without prior notification, the president, together with Colonel Fakuri, minister of defense and commander of the air force, arrived at Nowzheh airbase in Hamadan at 1700, and was welcomed by the commander of the airbase and the other personnel. He inspected the various parts of the airbase.

According to this report, during the president's inspection of various parts of the Nowzheh airbase the personnel of the airbase expressed their feelings toward the president by shouting "God is great," "Greetings to Khomeyni, felicitations to Bani-Sadr, death to Yazid Saddam."

According to the latest report we have received, the president, accompanied by Colonel Fakuri, returned to Tehran at 2200.

JOINT STAFF DEPUTY COMMANDER PRAISES ARMED FORCES

JN270746 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Text] In an interview with PARS following his return to Tehran from a visit to the frontlines yesterday, Brigadier General Fallahi, deputy commander of the Joint Staff of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran, said that the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran have sincerely and loyally placed everything they have at the disposal of God, the Iranian people and the imam, relying upon their military capabilities.

Brigadier General Fallahi added: The Iraqi Army has been preparing for its evil intentions for years. A country with a population of 11 million has been transformed into an arsenal much larger than it can absorb in the military, economic and national fields. The Iraqi Army cannot absorb such a large quantity of weapons and equipment. This country was transformed into a large military base and arsenal by the arms and equipment of the superpowers.

The deputy commander of the Joint Staff of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran said: Our forces derive their strength from religious and divine sources and principles. The confrontation of the war which has been imposed upon us is a divine, humanitarian and patriotic duty. God has granted everyone the right to selfdefense. Since the Almighty has granted us this right, it is obvious that God supports us morally in our defense.

Brigadier General Fallahi said: Fortunately, there is total solidarity between the public in the southern regions and the revolutionary organizations and the army in confronting the aggressive forces.

Exhorts Nation to Further Victory

LD281312 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Statement by Brig Gen Valiollah Fallahi, acting chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, addressed to all the fighting forces and the Iranian nation]

[Text] In the name of God, O you air force heroes, pilots, NCO's, technicians, civilian employees and air force soldiers who are cutting the skies and, like eagles, annihilate the enemies of Islam in the air and on land.

O you guardians of the navy, officers, NCO's, commandos, civilians and you [word indistinct] who, like whales, are swallowing the Iraqi sea pigs and [words indistinct] from the depth of the Persian Gulf [word indistinct].

O you mighty Islamic Republic ground forces, officers, NCO's employees and soldiers who [words indistinct] have created a sea of blood along the Iranian borders [words indistinct].

O you mighty army of Ahvaz who for 27 days (?resisted) the awesome blows of Iraqi bombs [words indistinct].

O you heroic Kermanshah army who created ironhard obstacles against the penetration of [words indistinct].

O you armored brigade of Shiraz who are single-handedly defending your fortifications. [Words indistinct] of Maragheh, the 22 group of [word indistinct] the 33d group of Tehran; the 44th and 55th groups of Esfahan who have created hell by your fires for the Iraqi pharaohs.

O you fighting brigade of Khorramabad who are barvely defending, like mountains, from the mountains of Iran and Kavir Kuh. O you army division of Khorasan and army division of Tehran; you anti-aircraft unit of Shiraz; O you military college, army division of Qavin; [word indistinct] who rushed to help you brother soldiers, like Abbas and Muslim [two Shi'ite imams], in the west Iranian borders.

O you epic-making airborne unite, you mighty eagle of the sky who hunts the Iraqi tanks like sparrows. O you self-sacrificing and selfless gendarmerie who accomplished the greatest heroism in intact columns in defense of the Islamic homeland. O you corps of the revolution guards who, like 'Ali, are defending Iran and Islam along our borders.

O you innocent and loyal Iranian people, O you wingless angels of God, circling the armed forces like butterflies; you who are fighting on the borders and hold memorial services for the members of the armed forces with tears and [word indistinct]. You who remain awake by the side of the wounded and disabled of the war. God's blessing and glory be upon you, you generous men. The gratitude of the martyrs and the wounded, as well as those of the armed forces, are dedicated to your sublime Islamic and humane threshold.

O you Islamic army, you fighters of the sky, land and sea, the moment of victory is near. The sun of your honor will soon rise and disperse the [word indistinct] of the Iraqi pharaohs. Do not forget, you are not only fighting the Iraqi Army; you are fighting half the world; you are fighting America and its illegitimate associates. Take advantage of the successive defeats suffered by the Iraqi Army; maintain your contact with the fleeing enemy; continue you pursuit; arrest and annihilate the enemy. Do not relax even for a moment. To crush the enemy, use all available means, even the darkness of the night. Only rely on God, your nation, your imam and yourselves and the means available to you.

The moment of victory is near; nearer than you think. Treat the vanquished, captured and helpless enemy generously and in an Islamic manner as did the heroes of the early Islamic period, like Imam 'Ali.

[Signed] Brig Gen Vali Fallahi, acting chief of the Joint Staff of the Islamic Republic Army

DETAILS OF 27 SEP CABINET SESSION REPORTED

LD281042 Tehran PARS in English 0920 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Text] Tehran, 28 Sep (PARS NEWS AGENCY)--The Cabinet held a session on Saturday evening in which in addition to (?studying) the invasion of Iraqi Ba'thist mercenaries, the following were studied and approved:

1. Formation of economic mobilisation headquarters consiting of the Ministries of Oil, Industries and Mines, Labour and Social Affairs, Agriculture, Interior, Energy, Economic and Finance, Commerce, Defence, Plan and Budget Organisation, and the Central Bank of Iran, led by the prime minister.

2. Proposals of the Ministry of Health concerning the appointment of managing directors of the ministry by the minister of health.

3. Allocation of 500 million rials for the hygiene affairs of deportees from Iraq and Afghanistan.

4. Proposal of the welfare organisation concerning the turning over of the centre of handicapped children to that organisation.

5. Proposal of the Ministry of Interior concerning the registration of the children of Afghan refugees in Iranian schools.

This Cabinet session continued till midnight, reported PARS NEWS AGENCY.

MAJLIS DISCUSSES SITUATION IN CLOSED SESSION

LD281150 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Excerpts] Deputy 'Ali Akbar Dehqan, deputy from [word indistinct] said at this morning's meeting of the Majlis: You deputies know what goes on in various parts of the country. You are also aware of the nation's decision to fight in border areas. The fact is that our nation has accepted martyrdom; to our nation defeat has no meaning. Neither Iraq nor those supporting it are aware of this. For had they known of the consequences of their attack on Iran, they would never have resorted to this aggression. You know that America said that as a result of the conflict between Iran and Iraq the problem of the hostages might be resolved. However, little did America know; for had it known how the Muslim students followers of the imam's policy managed to put the shredded pieces of papers together and collect the necessary evidence, it would have been impossible for America to maintain this plot.

Our correspondent reports that one of the point included in today's agenda was the question of continued debate on the general aspect of the hostage issue, and a study of the issue of sending a mission to various embassies. However, a vote was taken following the preagenda speeches, as requested by 15 deputies, concerning the holding of a closed session of the Majlis to hear reports on the border situation in Khuzestan and the western part of the country. It was subsequently decided to adjourn the meeting at 0930 and hold a closed session immediately.

OIL MINISTER ARRIVES IN KHUZESTAN ON INSPECTION TOUR

LD281246 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Text] The new oil minister, Mohammad Javad Tondguyan, accompanied by several heads of departments of the ministry, arrived in Khuzestan to inspect the oil regions and the Abadan oil refinery.

On arrival in Ahvaz, the delegation participated in the meeting of the operations headquarters of the Ahvaz oil industry and then left for Abadan to inspect the refinery in that city.

IMAM KHAMENE'I ADDRESSES AHVAZ CITIZENS ON WAR

LD281852 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1700 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Text] According to PARS, Hojjat ol-Eslam va Moslemin Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, the Friday imam of Tehran and Imam Khomeyni's representative on the Supreme Defense Council, who on the imam's instructions is on his way to the war front, today made some remarks to the people of Ahvaz at a gathering on the war between Iran and the Ba'thist regime of Iraq.

The Friday imam of Tehran, who was speaking to tens of thousands of citizens of Ahvaz at the Hoseyniyeh mosque of that city, referred to the role played by Saddam Husayn to implement American plans and said: Saddam has no personality or honor left.

The Friday imam of Theran added: The fighting forces of Iran are determined and eager to be martyred and win victory 100 percent; and our great national power is strongly behind our fighting military [word indistinct] forces. But he resorts to various means every day and is more worried than his master, America.

The Friday imam of Tehran referred to the mediation of some ambassadors. He said: Of course, we shall not discuss any point with the Yazid [killer of Imam Husayn, the third imam] of our time, Saddam, because any compromise is meaningless between an Islamic regime and a blasphemous satanic regime, and between right and wrong.

The Friday imam of Tehran added: We are not facing Saddam. Saddam is too insignificant to be able to stand up against the great wave of the Islamic Revolution. We are facing America and Russia, and Saddam is one of their fingers; and we shall sever these fingers.

Commenting on the fact that the Iraqi Ba'thist Government has dispatched the dear children of the people of Iraq to fight against Islam, he said: Last night I asked a captured Iraqi officer, why have you come to fight against the Muslims? He replied that he was forced to do so. This is the attitude of an Iraqi officer who has come to fight. But you who are fighting for the Islamic Revolution and are defending the Islamic Revolution were not forced by anybody; and you are fighting eagerly.

At this point, the Friday imam of Tehran recalled the saying that the result of a war cannot be determined in a moment or in a day. Stressing the people's responsibility at this sensitive period, he said: You have two duties: First, you must be prepared to fight and struggle, and second you must fill the positions of responsibility which are vacated by those who go to the front; and you must see to the needs of the people.

Hojjat ol'Eslam Khamene'i then added: We are facing both superpowers, there are Soviet MiG's in the hands of an Egyptian battalion, and military equipment of one superpower together with the policy [word indistinct] of the other superpower.

These moments are unprecedented in the history of our nation; and they are moments which can determine the fate of world civilization. And if we are triumphant, Islam will break the backs of America and the Soviet Union in this region and all over the Middle East. If the Islamic Revolution and the Islamic Republic, with the brave resistance of its fighting people, succeeds in making the arrogant world accept its existence, then the funeral service of the imperialists and socialists, who claim to own the world, is imminent.

The PARS correspondent adds in his report: The audience was full of excitement, and beside the great mass of people of Ahvaz, who were chanting anti-Saddam and anti-American slogans and were announcing their readiness to fight, Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed Hoseyn Khomeyni, the imam's grandson, and some of the clergy were also present, all of them wearing military uniform.

MONTAZERI: WAR WILL ADVERSELY AFFECT HOSTAGE ISSUE

LD271018 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1121 GMT 26 Sep 80

[Excerpt] At the Hakim Nezami school today the people of Qom, in order to observe the glorious rites of Friday prayers, this upholding pillar of pagan-fighting Islam, embarked--tempestuously and roaringly--on renewing their vows to the martyrs for Mohammad's principles from Mohammad's era until now.

The large crowd revealed the steadfastness against the heathens of the followers of the lord of the world's martyrs, His Eminence Husayn ibn 'Ali.

The speaker before the Friday prayer sermons today was Hojjat ol'Eslam (Mohammad Fater), and after him the esteemed jurisconsult Ayatollah Montazeri preached prayer sermons.

In his Friday prayer sermons in Qom His Excellency Ayatollah Montazeri, while counseling all to remain pious and obey the ordinances of Islam, said: Now that we are in a state of war with the United States and its agent regime in Iraq, we must absolutely refrain from extravagance, hoarding and overcharging when it comes to public food and fuels.

Addressing Iraqi Muslims, officers and NCO's His Excellency Ayatollah Montazeri then said: This war imposed by the infidel Saddam has taken place during the holy month [of Dhu al-Qa'dah] and during the pilgrimage season to God's house [Mecca]; and it is now up to you, like your brother nation in Iran who rose with empty hands, to rise and rid the Muslims of the evil of this anti-Islamic regime.

Ayatollah Montazeri addressed the American nation. He said: It was thought that Carter was thinking of the hostages; that he was working toward the goal of resolving this problem soon. But this war which has been forced upon us by the United States will definitely have an adverse effect and the issue of the hostages will not be solved so soon, for our nation will under no circumstances submit to any force applied by the United States.

CENTRAL BANK DENIES PLANS TO SELL GOLD

LD272202 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Text] According to the Central News Bureau, Central Bank officials today denied an agency report concerning the sale of gold by Iran. A Central Bank official told our correspondent that, contrary to false reports, the price of gold in the world market has risen; however, Iran has no intention of selling gold.

CENTRAL BANK URGES PEOPLE NOT TO WITHDRAW DEPOSITS

LD280454 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Text] The following statement has been issued by the Central Bank of Iran:

In the name of God. Greetings to the Muslim nation of Iran, greetings to the brave soldiers of Islam. Brother and sister compatriots, as you are aware, during the past few days due to the war imposed on us by the puppet government of Baghdad, there have been some restrictions in domestic flights and the sale and distribution of gasoline. This in turn has affected the banking system of the country. In fact, because of the cancellation of domestic freight flights and restrictions in gasoline sales, the transportation of money all over the country and in Theran has slowed down and the new restrictions due to the traffic regulations have not helped the situation. This has caused some branches of banks which keep only enough cash to meet their average daily needs to be short of cash. This has led a small number of our compatriots to become worried and go to the banks more than usual. As a result, some of the banks in the country have not been able to cope with the demands of clients, and on the recommendation of the branch manager that amount of cash advanced to clients has been less than what they demanded.

The Central Bank of Iran apologizes for the inconvenience caused to the champion-raising people of our country and wishes to stress this important point: that although this shortage is quite temporary and due to the present extraordinary conditions, any attempt to overcome it will totally depend on the [word indistinct] cooperation of our Muslim people who should not withdraw their deposits except for emergency cases. The banks must guide, warn and advise those who do not comply with the above directive. They should encourage all to deposit their savings in banks since by doing so they will help the economy and stability of our country and will safeguard their savings. Once again we want to stress that the Central Bank of Iran guarantees all the savings deposited by the people, and there is no place safer for their savings but the bank safe. Therefore, the Central Bank of Iran in the interests of Islam requests that:

1. Except for emergency needs do not withdraw from your current and deposit accounts.

2. Carry out your deals and cash requirements by ordinary check or bank checks. All the banks in the country have been ordered to issue bank checks to customers on demand and without extra charge.

3. Do not worry about bank closures in battle areas and Tehran since the Central Bank is prepared to open branches in tents or in barracks and offer banking facilities to clients.

4. Do not go to banks in order to exchange your 200 rial bank notes. The deadline for the exchange of these notes has been extended till 22 October. The Central Bank of Iran once again wishes to stress that the cash stock of this bank and the banking network of the country is quite adequate and enough to meet the demands of the people. The present difficulties are merely due to distribution problems. If the above directives are not followed in their entirety and by all the dear compatriots, obviously the Central Bank of Iran will have to resort to appropriate measures.

JOINT STAFF ISSUES STATEMENTS ON FIGHTING WITH IRAQ

53: Expatriates' Offers

LD261212 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Sep 80

[Statement No 53 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. God loves the warriors who fight for Him in a coherent, unified line, as if their line is one of iron.

The strata of the Muslim nation of Iran are at war with the Ba'thist regime of Iraq. This battle, as has been promised by God, will lead to the victory of the Armed Forces and the nation of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Under such sensitive circumstances a group of our beloved compatriots who are resident in foreign countries have expressed their readiness to shed their blood for the glory of Islam and our Islamic homeland, Iran, in the fight against the aggressive Ba'thist regime of Iraq. The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran thanks these beloved compatriots for expressing their readiness and assures them that with the help of God the belligerent force will be crushed.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

54: Battle Reports

LD261258 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Sep 80

[Statement No 54 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Dear compatriots, brave Iranian nation. From 23-26 September the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran have been engaged against the mercenaries of the Iraqi Ba'thist armed forces in the western border of the country. From Baveysi to the estuary of Arvand Rud [Shatt al-'Arab] they have been engaged in regular military operations; from the estuary of Arvand Rud up to the waters of Bushehr they have been engaged in naval operations; and the air force has been providing support for the ground and naval operations.

In all these operations, in addition to the ground forces, navy and air force, the gendarmerie and guards corps and local armed forces have also participated. The main operational areas are: Baveysi region, Qasr-e Shirin, Khan-Leyli, Naftshar, Shomar, the border regions of Ilam, Mehran, Dehloran, Mushiyan, Takkeh, Bostan, Khorramshahr and Abadan.

1. Baveysi region: The Iraqi forces penetrated Iranian territory several times with its armored forces and intended to cut off communications with Sar-e Pol-e Zahab and Qasr-e Shirin, as well as occupying them; these attacks were neutralized by the steadfast defense of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran. At this time, intense fighting is going on between the two sides on the border heights within Iranian territory. Both sides have suffered casulaties and damages; the casulaties, damage and loss suffered by the Iraqi Armed Forces is very heavy. Iranian and Iraqi border posts in this region have been completely destroyed.

2. Qasr-e Shirin region: The greater part of the population of Qasr-e Shirin have left the town. This town has come under attack from the armoured units of the Iraqi Army from five directions. On 23, 24, and 25 September this town was the target of the heaviest ground and air attacks of the Iraqi Armed Forces. The civilian casulaties and the damage inflicted upon the city is considerable; the casualties and losses suffered by the Armed Forces of Iran are light, but the casualties and damage inflicted upon the Iraqi Armed Forces have been considerable. At the moment, the Iraqi attacks have been halted from two directions, but in three other directions battle is being waged intensely. In this region, some of the fighting is being waged on Iranian territory and some on Iraqi territory. At the moment, there is street fighting in Qasr-e Shirin between our forces and the forces of the enemy. The greater part of the Iraqi border posts and a few Iranian posts in this region have been destroyed.

3. Khan-Leyli region: During the first days of the clashes, five Iranian border posts were completely destroyed by the Iraqi Armed Forces. The Iraqi forces have occupied a number of border heights in this region. The casualties and losses suffered by the Iranian and Iraqi forces in this region have been extremely heavy. The border posts of Iran and Iraq in this region have been completely destroyed.

4. Naftshar and Shomar: The cities are totally evacuated by the population. The oil installations of Iran and Iraq have received extensive damage. Iranian forces have the border region under their control and, despite all their attempts, the Iraqi forces have not been able to penetrate this region. The casualties and losses suffered by both sides have been light. The border posts of the region are mostly intact and active and only a few have been destroyed. All the Iraqi border posts in this region have been completely destroyed.

5. Border regions in Ilam: A number of Iranian and Iraqi border posts have been completely destroyed; but the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran have relative control over the borders in this region. The Iraqi Armed Forces have not been able to penetrate this region. In this region, the casualties and losses suffered by the Iraqi Armed Forces have been heavier than those suffered by the Iranian Armed Forces.

6. Mehran: Iraqi border posts in this region have been completely destroyed and considerable damage has been inflicted on a number of Iranian posts. The casualties and damage suffered by the civilians in Mehran have been heavy; the casualties and damage suffered by the Iranian Armed Forces have been light; and the casualties and damage suffered by the Iraqi Armed Forces have been considerable. In this region a very small part of the Iranian border is under the control of Iraqi forces.

7. Dehloran: From Musiyan to Takkeh heavy damage has been inflicted upon Iraqi oil installations. The border posts of both sides have suffered great damage. The major part of the borders are under the control of our forces. The Iraqi Army has penetrated Iranian territory in the region between Mushiyan and Takkeh. Very heavy fighting is going on inside Iranian territory between the two sides. The casualties and losses suffered by the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Iraqi Armed Forces are very heavy. The Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the local armed personnel are resolutely defending the area. The result of the fighting in this region cannot be forecast.

8. Bostan region: The posts belonging to both sides have suffered great damage. The casualties and losses to both sides are very heavy. The Iraqi Armed Forces have, in some parts, penetrated Iranian territory and fighting is going on inside Iranian territory. The result of the fighting in this region cannot be forecast.

9. Khorramshahr and Abadan: In Arvand Rud [Shatt al-'Arab] area, Iraqi territory is 1 kilometer away from Abadan and Khorramshahr, and during the entire period of operations these cities were being fired at from Iraqi territory by mortar launchers and artillery. Civilian casualties and damage in the cities of Abadan and Khorramshahr are very heavy. Part of Abadam refinery has been put out of action and part is burning. Despite the attempts of all firefighters columns of fire and smoke can still be seen above the refinery.

10. Khorramshahr is about 15 kilometers away from the land border. In this region the heaviest attacks of the armored division of the Iraqi Armed Forces have been directed toward capturing Khorramshahr. Khorramshahr is under artillery fire from two directions and from one direction is under fire from tanks. It is also being bombed from the air by the Iraqi Armed Forces.

From the direction of the land border, Iraqi ground forces have on several occasions carried out attacks by day and night but these operations have been repulsed by the steadfast defense of Iranian ground forces, navy, gendarmerie, police, guards and the people of Khorramshahr themselves. At the moment the city is withstanding the severest attacks of the enemy from four directions, and the brave people of the city and the armed forces have erected defenses on all sides of the city, in the streets, and on rooftops, and they are determined to decisively defend the city. On the land border region of Khorramshahr the Iraqi Army has penetrated Iranian territory. The casualties and damage inflicted on the Iraqi Armed Forces are very heavy; the casualties and losses to the Iranian Armed Forces have been light.

11. Throughout the period of operations the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran has had Iranian airspace under its control, relatively, and throughout the period of clashes it has provided support for the ground forces and the navy according to its capability. It has taken the air battle into Iraqi territory.

During this period, it has attacked Iraqi territory three times and has destroyed the greater part of Iraq's oil and military installations in the depths of its territory and has returned to Iranian territory with minimal losses and casualties.

12. The navy has had the Strait of Hormuz under its control and has carried out shipping (?movements) throughout the Persian Gulf by day and night. It has safeguarded the Iranian coastline and islands. It has been engaged in several clashes with the Iraqi Navy and has so far been successful.

13. With its limited military capabilities, the gendarmerie has withstood the enemy--with the exception of the Khan-Leyli posts--in all regions. It has defended its positions to its last breath, its last man, and its last bullet.

14. In Kermanshah, Ilam and Khuzestan regions, the guards corps has continued its valiant operations shoulder to shoulder with the armed forces.

15. From 1-25 September, during the 24 days since the start of the clashes, the casualties and damage suffered by both sides have been:

A. The Iraqi Armed Forces: 72 aircraft, 3 helicopters, 114 tanks and armored personnel carriers, 6 missile ships, 2 merchant ships and dredgers.

B. The Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran: 8 aircraft, 1 helicopter, 16 tanks, 2 boats and 1 dredger.

Meanwhile, a large number of the enemy's tanks and armored vehicles have been destroyed inside Iraqi territory, but we do not possess accurate statistics concerning them.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

55: Capture of Iraqi Soldiers

LD261152 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1119 GMT 26 Sep 80

[Statement No 55 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. "Know that the party of God is verily victorious."

Fighting, Muslim nation of Iran: Right now, our fighting and brave people in Khorramshahr and Abadan, with the assistance of soldier brothers, guards and pilots, have attacked the mercenary aggressive forces, and by destroying about 50 tanks and capturing a large number of Iraqi soldiers have delivered a powerful blow against these godless mercenaries so that they may know that the martyr-nurturing and heroic Islamic country of ours, Iran, is invincible. The complete proceedings of the events will be brought to the notice of the valiant Iranian nation.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Arrmed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

56: Promotion of Junior Officers

LD261804 [Editorial Report] Tehran Domestic Service in Persian in its 1630 GMT newscast on 26 September carries Statement No 56 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, which announces the promotion for bravery of several junior officers and NCO's and which praises others for their courage. The statement makes no specific mention of the Iran-Iraq conflict.

57: 26 Sep Victories

GF261802 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1725 GMT 26 Sep 80

[Statement No 57 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. O conscious Iranian Muslim people, the Armed Forces of the Islamic Revolution of Iran achieved magnificent victories in the western region of the country today, including an attack against a large number of tanks of the Iraqi attackers.

Thirty enemy tanks were seized during an attack launched by our ground forces, navy, revolution guards and revolutionary compatriots.

In [word indistinct] region, enemy armored forces were forced to retreat and run away under pressure from our forces. Two enemy tanks were seized.

At the same time, enemy planes raided Kermanshah and inflicted light damage on its refinery. An Iraqi Topolov plane entered Iranian airspace and got as far as Qazvin. However, our ground resistance forced it to retreat.

According to the latest reports, two Iraqi MiG's were downed during an Iraqi air raid on Hamadan and Marivan.

The Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran hit the Mosul refinery today and destroyed the bridge linking Mosul and Arbil districts.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

59: Citizens Remain Calm

LD261945 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1858 GMT 26 Sep 80

[Statement No 59 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the name of God. O you free, noble and Muslim Iranian people. Your fighting brothers are heroically fighting in the armed forces with everything in their power on land, air and sea against the aggressive enemy. Up to now theyhave achieved great victories against such aggression. Enjoying the support of the heroic and Muslim Iranian nation, the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran are continuing their battle against the enemy in an extremely high state of morale. They thank all the combative people who are helping them in their operations. The calm felt by our dear compatriots is such that it makes the continuation of our operation possible.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

60: Bombing of Iraqi Targets

LD270512 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Statement No 60 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Following yesterday's confrontations between the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran with the enemy forces of Iraq, the following operations are hereby brought to the attention of the struggling Muslim nation of Iran:

The refinery and industrial installations at (Amolfil) in Iraq were bombed by the fighters of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the extent of destruction is about 85 percent.

The industrial installations to the northwest of Kirkuk were bombed and the extent of destruction is about 85 percent.

The oil installations in Kirkuk were bombed and the extent of destruction is 85 percent.

Kirkuk base and radar station were 100 percent destroyed by the fire of the figher planes of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Also oil reservoirs in Kirkuk were attacked by Iranian fighter planes and at 1220 yesterday the oil installation in Al-Bakr, the biggest source of Iraqi oil exports at the mouth of the Arvand Rud, was bombed.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

61: Bombing Operations

LD270606 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0530 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Statement No 61 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The noble and Muslim nation of Iran is hereby informed of another part of the operations carried out by the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran yesterday.

One Iraqi MiG crashed in Rudbar near Semirom, and efforts to find and arrest the pilot are still going on. One Phantom plane belonging to the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran was downed after having carried out its mission near an Iraqi oil rig, and its pilots bailed out into the sea. Efforts to save them have been fruitless up to now.

At 1525 yesterday, a number of Iraqi fighter planes attacked the naval units around Bushehr. Two of the planes were downed by the fire of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Also at 1600 yesterday, enemy planes bombed the town of Susangerd, as a result of which one person was martyred and three injured.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

62: Bombing of Khark Island

LD270556 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0530 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Statement No 62 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The results of confrontations during the past few hours are hereby brought to the attention of the nation of Iran:

At 2040 last night several transport vehicles of the Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran were attacked by Iraqi MiG's. One Iraqi MiG was shot down by antiaircraft artillery near the (Qorbeh) mountains and its pilot bailed out and was arrested.

At 2340 last night a number of enemy planes attacked Khark Island, one of which was shot by the antiaircraft defense and crashed on the island.

The brave and valiant people of Qasr-e Shirin have come to the help of their soldier brothers and have attacked Iraqi tanks with Molotov cocktails and destroyed several Iraqi tanks. Also the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran with the cooperation of local fighting people have succeeded in destroying several Iraqi tanks in Ilam.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

63: Downing of Iraqi MiG's

LD270654 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0641 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Statement No 63 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. We wish to inform the combatant, Muslim nation of Iran that at 0850 today two Iraqi MiG's raided the Nowzheh airbase in Hamadan. However, before succeeding in their bombing mission both MiG's were shot down by antiaircraft fire of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

64: Plan To Bomb Shrines

LD270904 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0730 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Statement No 64 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name.

According to reports we have received, Iraqi Ba'th regime agents plan to bomb holy shrines and places in Iraq. In order to conceal their sinister, antihuman and anti-Islamic act they have announced that the Iranian Army is planning attacks on these holy places.

The Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran hereby again informs the world's Muslims at large that it will never resort to such an action decribed by the servants of blasphemy and agents of the Iraqi Ba'th regime. The entire honorable Iranian people are prepared to sacrifice their lives so that these holy places are safeguarded and remain intact.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

65: Attack on Kirkuk Airport

LD270908 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0850 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Statement No 65 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name.

Honorable Muslim nation of Iran! At 1040 today, fighter aircraft of the Air Force of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran bombed the installations in Kirkuk airport and also destroyed the telecommunication station in that area.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

66: Iraqi Pilots To Be Spared

LD271132 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Statement No 66 of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name.

The combatant, dedicated, Muslim nation of Iran is strongly urged not to shoot the pilots of aggressive enemy aircraft who are forced to bale out by parachute, thereby allowing their capture.

Should enemy military equipment or other instruments of war be captured intact it should not be damaged but handed intact to the responsible authorities.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

67: Bombing Success

LD271111 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1048 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Statement No 67 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] Honorable Muslim nation of Iran. Following operations conducted by the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran beyond the country's borders today we would like to inform you that at 1100 fighter aircraft of the Air Force of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran successfully bombed positions south of Al-Mawsil in Iraq and after the completion of their mission returned to base safely.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran

68: Clearing of Mehrabad Requested

LD271226 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1152 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Statement No 68 of the Joint Staff of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. A large number of the Muslim and combatant inhabitants of Tehran, bearing garlands, posies and gifts of sweets, are assembling around Tehran's Mehrabad Airport and, by sacrificing large numbers of sheep, are according a fitting welcome to the heroic and valiant pilots of the Air Force of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran. These self-sacrificing pilots are bravely carrying out their missions over Iraqi territory and are returning home. While extending our sincere appreciation to the Muslim and combatant nation of Iran, particularly Tehran's revolutionary people, the Joint Staff of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran begs them to vacate the area around Mehrabad Airport so that operational flights might not be interfered with.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran

69: Air Force Successes

GF272050 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1918 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Text] In His exalted name. Dear Muslim citizens, the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran has, since 0900 today, valiantly and victoriously achieved the tasks assigned to it in Iraq. They are as follows:

1. The destruction of the bridge on the Irbil-Mosul road and the total destruction of a telecommunications tower in the ara.

2. The destruction of the Mosul-(Zagros) road near (?Baqq) heights.

3. The strafing of the road, railway line and bridge west of 'Ayn Zalah on the Mosul road and the disruption of land and railway transportation in the area.

4. The repeated strafing of all installations in 'Ayn Zalah and all oil rigs and reservoirs in the area, inflicting heavy losses on the enemy.

The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, while announcing its gratitude, expresses its thanks and appreciation to the valiant pilots and asks the noble Iranian people to carry out little services for these valiant men and all air force personnel. The anti-aircraft guns of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Army have shot down two Iraqi MiG's that tried to attack the (Moshiknah) base this morning before they could carry out their mission. The body of one of the two pilots was handed over to the (?Mejel) base. The second pilot was arrested after he landed. A machinegun and some equipment were in his possession. He was handed over to the (?Mejel) base.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

70: Iraqi Attack on Sardasht

LD271840 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1818 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Statement No 70 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the name of God. Dear compatriots and the Muslim and upright Iranian nation. The God-oblivious and infidel agent enemy has once again resorted to a dastardly and inhuman act. At 1310 today, 27 September, the Iraqi Ba'thist lackeys launched an air raid on the innocent women and children in villages of Amirabad and Uraf in [words indistinct] and Sar dasht region. By launching this raid against these two villages they martyred and wounded a number of our dear compatriots.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

71: Bombing of Iraqi Garrisons

LD271850 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1820 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Statement No 71 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the name of God. Dear revolutionary Iranian compatriots, between 1500 and 1700 today, 27 September, the air force's brave fighters attacked military garrisons of Rawanduz and (Haijiyendan) and destroyed both, inflicting heavy losses and casualties on the enemy. Meanwhile, during these air raids, a bridge to the west of Rawanduz and the road linking (Haijiyendan) and Rawanduz were also destroyed.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces

72: Encounter With Iraqi MiG's

LD271858 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1832 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Statement No 72 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the name of God. O alert and Muslim Iranian nation. This is to inform you of the outcome of the encounter with the attacking Iraqi aircraft on Khark Island between 25 September and 2400 on 26 September.

1. A total of 13 Iraqi MiG's were involved in the raid on the island. These MiG's were shot by surface-to-air missiles. Of these MiG's, six were downed on the island and seven crashed in the sea.

2. Our forces did not suffer any casualties.

3. Three officers and two NCO's were superficially wounded; they received out-patient treatment.

4. The fires caused by these operations are under control.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces

73: Warning to Gulf States

LD271908 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1836 GMT 27 Sep 80

[Statement No 73 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the name of God. As we informed you, the Iraqi Ba'thist regime is continuing to remain subservient to imperialism. According to some evidence, this sort of subservience has also been noticed in certain sheykhdoms in the southern part of the Persian Gulf.

By giving sanctuary to and mobilizing the Iraqi Ba'thist forces, they are cooperating with them in deed. This is to point out quite categorically that should this situation continue, the Islamic Republic of Iran will consider it its legitimate right to deal with these sheykhdoms in any way it considers appropriate. Obviously, under such circumstances, the Islamic Armed Forces would not be responsible for the consequences of such cooperation with the Iraqi Army.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces

74: Fighting Near Qasr-e Shirin

LD280545 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Statement No 74 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Dear enthusiastic compatriots, once again the airborne division of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran has created a great honor. During the proud operations carried out by the airborne division of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran at 1230 yesterday, 27 September, in the border region of Qasr-e Shirin, the fighting personnel of the airborne division, who were supporting the units of the 81st Kermanshah Division, set the ammunition storage tents of the Iraqi Army on fire. These tents were burning for more than 2 hours.

Also in another brave and victorious operation carried out by the airborne division of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran at the border region of Gilan-e Gharb and [word indistinct], while supporting the 81st Kermanshah Division, they confronted two tank battalions from the Iraqi Army and as a result of the heavy fire by the fighter helicopters of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the two tank battalions were completely destroyed, and (?46) tanks were destroyed in this confrontation. The corpses of these tanks were left at the abovementioned areas.

The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran congratulates the Muslim and champion nation of Iran on the victorious achievements of the self-sacrificing personnel of the airborne division and the 81st Kermanshah Armored ivision and other [word indistinct] forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and prays for more victories for the Armed Forces of Iran at this sensitive time.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces

75: Navy Personnel Information

LD280548 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Statement No 75 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Dear compatriots, according to the announcement by the navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran, families whose sons or husbands serve in the navy and bravely guard the water borders of the Islamic Republic of Iran, can call the telephone number 848032 for information about the health and well-being of their sons or husbands. The navy of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran wishes health and victory for all the personnel of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

76: Bombing of Kirkuk

LD280558 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Statement No 76 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Dear Muslim and patriotic, revolutionary compatriots: During the air raids yesterday afternoon, 27 September, two of the fighter planes of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran bombed all the oil storage tanks in Kirkuk in Iraq.

The resulting damage and destruction was quite heavy. Another mission carried out by these planes consisted of destroying the armored units of Iraq and, in this mission, the fighter planes of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran succeeded in destroying 40 Iraqi tanks in Iraqi territory. According to the pilots who took part in these missions, there are eight anti-aircraft platforms to the south of the Kirkuk oil storage tanks. The Iranian fighter planes flew over them when returning from their mission, and two SAM missiles were shot at them, but fortunately the missiles hit the mountains.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

77: Attack on Khorramshahr

LD280522 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Statement No 77 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The dear compatriots and the Muslim and patriotic nation of Iran are hereby informed that for several days now, in the border zone of Khorramshahr, the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, supported wholeheartedly by local armed groups and town residents, have foiled the attacks of aggressive forces and have destroyed the enemy in the region as much as possible or have forced them to retreat to the other side of the border. The forces of the Iraqi B'athist army have from then on continuously shelled Khorramshahr. The military personnel and brave and honorable people of Khuzestan in this border zone of Iran and Iraq have been constantly, bravely and with complete superiority defending the town of Khorramshahr. The news about Khorramshahr carried by agencies which are direct representatives of America is denied.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

78: Bombing of Bushehr

LD280512 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Statement No 78 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Dear nation of Iran, according to the information received, during last nights attack by Iraqi MiGs on Bushehr port, one Iraqi MiG was downed by the fighters of the Navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Also this morning a second Iraqi MiG was hit by shots fired by the anti-aircraft defense of the Navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and crashed near (?Kharku) Island. More information will be brought to the attention of the dear compatriots as soon as available.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

79: Need for Trucks

LD280614 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0530 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Statement No 79 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, while expressing its gratitude because of the sincere cooperation of the generous nation of Iran, hereby announces that the armed forces need a number of trailer trucks having capacities of 20 tons, 40 tons, 50 tons, and over, and a width of 3 meters.

All the owners of such trailer trucks are asked to contact the following telephone numbers: 3535 and 3873 'in Qazvin, so that the necessary steps can be taken to arrange for their participation in the holy mission of defending the I lamic homeland. If requested by the owners of the trucks, rent charges will be paid.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

80: Attack on Armored Column

LD280744 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0710 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Statement No 80 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Dear and brave Iranian compatriots, this is the result of the support and solidarity shown by you, the fighting and zealous nation of Iran which [word indistinct] is a victory and a legend. According to the information received, the fighting personnel of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran this morning launched a heavy attack on an armored column of the Iraqi Army on the route between Qasr-e Shirin and Gilan-e Gharb and destroyed a large number of enemy tanks. Following this heavy attack by the fighting personnel of the army who dealt a heavy blow on the enemy, the zealous and self-sacrificing people of Gilan-e Gharb, supporting their soldier brothers, attacked and overran the remainder of the column. A detailed account of this brave confrontation will be brought to the attention of the nation of Iran as soon as it is available. Also, thanking the Muslim and brave people of Gilan-e Gharb and the surrounding areas, they are requested to be very cautious because of the existence of chemical gases in the wake of the enemy in the area.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

81: MiG's Downed Over Khark Island

GF280952 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Statement No 81 of the Joint Staff of Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. O dear Muslim Iranian compatriots, the naval base on Khark Island has carried out the following operations to counter air raids by the Iraqi Army:

1. Since 0600 today the island has been on the alert because of an enemy air raid that was confronted. According to incoming information, four Iraqi MiG's were downed. The first was downed by our gunboats: the second was downed by one of our Phantom fighters: the third and fourth were downed by the artillery of Bushire base.

2. The situation on Khark Island is calm and satisfactory.

3. There have been no losses of personnel or material. The spirit of our forces is high.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic kepublic of Iran

82: Counteroffensive Against Invaders

LD281138 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Statement No 82 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] The dear compatriots are hereby notified: Now that the pilots of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran have, and will, destroy military targets inside Iraq, the self-sacrificing pilots of the airborne division have commenced their severe counterattack on enemy units which have infliltrated our dear country.

So far, they have destroyed a large number of enemy tanks in Khuzestan and Gilan-e Gharb.

The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran is grateful to these self-sacrificing people and the technical staff of the airborne division who are trying, day and night, to keep our aircraft airworthy, and asks them to continue their brave onslaughts until the last breath, alongside the units of the ground forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and give them aircover.

The prayers of the imam and the nation are for you, noble offspring of Iran.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

84: MiG's Attack Kermanshah

LD281748 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1735 GMT 28 Sep 80

[Statement No 84 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. We inform the valiant and Muslim Iranian nation that at 1900 tonight four violating Iraqi MiG's attacked Kermanshah. As a result of the anti-aircraft fire one Iraqi MiG was brought down and its pilot bailed out with his parachute, and was arrested.

Also 63 personnel of the aggressive Iraqi forces were arrested in the west of the country.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

85: Downing of MiG's Near Bushehr

LD290506 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 29 Sep 80

[Statement No 85 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His Exalted name. Muslim and committee compatriots: In yesterday's attack by the aggressive Iraqi MiG's on Bushehr and (Baghineh Kar), three Iraqi MiG's were shot down by the fighter planes of the air force, and one MiG was shot down by one of the warships of the Navy of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran. In this attack one navy NCO was martyred and another one was injured.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

86: Attack on Enemy Positions

LD290522 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0436 GMT 29 Sep 80

[Statement No 86 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Muslim and brave nation of Iran: The brave fighters of the coastal guard of the south of the country of the Islamic Republic of Iran, with the cooperation of the combatants of the gendarmerie and the brave fighters of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran, yesterday morning brought the positions of the enemy in the areas of Bisheh, (Qesleh) and Jaz under fire. The Iranian forces destroyed an explosives warehouse in Faw Port, one radar dish, and several fuel storage tanks, and inflicted considerable damage on the enemy.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran